The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the COMMERCIAL Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

M. P. SHAN, Business Manager.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 3 cents; delivered by carriers (per week), 15 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet, containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year (52 issues), $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the Order, and in no instance can these terms be departed from.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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2. If a person orders his papers discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 26, 1874. NO. 114.

BUSINESS OF PITTSBURGH, FOR **1873!**

The COMMERCIAL of SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7th, *will contain the Annual Review of the Business of Pittsburgh, in the following Leading Departments:*

RECEIPTS OF PIG IRON, IRON ORE AND BLOOMS, with Comparative Tables of the preceding Four Years.

RECEIPTS OF IRON MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SUPERIOR ORES.

WEEKLY PRICES CURRENT of Bituminous Coal, Smelted Pig Iron and Anthracite Pig Iron, for 1872 and 1873.

NUMBER OF BLAST FURNACES in Pittsburgh and Vicinity, with their capacity.

RECEIPTS OF COAL AND COKE, by Monongahela Slackwater, from 1844 to date; Also, Shipments of Coal and Coke by River and Receipts by Rail.

STATISTICS OF THE OIL TRADE for the past Fourteen Years, with Weekly Price Current of Crude and Refined Oil for the last Five Years.

DAILY STAGE OF WATER at Pittsburgh for 1873.

RECEIPTS OF THE LEADING ARTICLES OF PRODUCE, for Five Years Past, including Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley, Apples, Cheese, Bacon, Butter, etc.

GRAIN RECEIPTS at the Pittsburgh Elevator for the past Four Years.

The Statistics of the Iron, Coal, Coke and Oil Trades are complete and reliable, and the Tables of Comparison show a wonderful Growth and development during the past few years.

The Weekly Prices Current for Pig Metal and Crude and Refined Oils, are made up from Actual Sales, and will be found useful for those engaged in the respective Branches.

Every Business Man should have these Valuable Tables for reference. An extra edition will be Printed, but those who desire copies of the Paper should leave their Orders at the Counting Room, on or before MONDAY, February 2d.

☞ Orders by Mail will be Attended to.

FIRST EDITION

HARRISBURG.

Allegheny Delegation and Local Option.

Explanation of Orphans' Court Bill.

Special Correspondence to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 24, 1874.

Your telegraphic reporter had no sufficient authority for saying that all the members of the House from Allegheny county would vote for a repeal of the Local Option law, except Newmyer. I fancy that I have as good a knowledge of how they are going to vote on that subject as your reporter, and I would not undertake to say how any of them are going to vote. If I ventured a guess on the subject, I would be that more than one of them would vote against it.

The *Legal Journal* of your city, followed by one of the daily papers, comments unfavorably on Newmyer's bill relative to the creation of separate Orphans' Courts. They object to that bill that it provides for the immediate erection of such separate courts, while the Constitution provides that they shall not go into operation until 1875. Mr. Newmyer's bill, on the contrary, distinctly provided that the court erected by it should go into operation only in 1875, and although it originally applied exclusively to Allegheny county, it was amended in the House by making it a general bill, applicable to all counties with over 150,000 inhabitants, without naming them. As there are but three of these counties, Allegheny, Luzerne and Philadelphia, it has been usual, when speaking of this bill, to speak of it as a bill to provide Orphans' Courts for those counties; but the bill itself names no counties specifically. If the editors of the papers referred to would but condescend to *read* the bills they undertake to comment upon, it would probably be more edifying to those who read their editorials upon them.

The Senate yesterday voted down the joint resolution to purchase Purdon's Digest for the use of the members of both Houses. It was remarkable that all amendments offered to this resolution, to limit the number purchased to the *new* members, to five copies for each House, etc., were likewise voted down. The Senators are determined to have the book or *all or none*. The vote will probably be reconsidered when the Senate meets again on Tuesday.

The Senate yesterday passed finally two bills, one to pay for advertising the new Constitution, and the other to provide for advertising for contracts to supply fuel, stationery, etc., for the two Houses and the various departments. The bill fix on the House, to regulate the advertising of notices of application for special legislation, was amended on second reading to require publication of such notices in two papers instead of one, and in one German paper besides, and was then laid aside for third reading.

The House spent the whole day, yesterday, on the Election bill, which went through on first reading, and it is to-day going through it on second reading, but it had not concluded the reading when it adjourned to Monday. The bill has been re-arranged as to sections, and amended variously, but its general purport is not materially changed. It will probably pass the House finally on Tuesday, and it will then go to a committee of conference, where its details will finally be arranged. It is safe to say that within a week from now the bill, in some shape, will be a law.

SPECIAL.

FROM JAMAICA.

Cable Laid to Porto Rico—Steamboat Missing—Fears of a Revolution in Hayti.

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, January 24.—A cable has been laid between this place and Ponce, Porto Rico.

The steamboat Cundinamarca, intended for the navigation of the Magdalena river, has not been heard of since she left New Orleans on the 14th of November last for Baranquilla.

There are fears of another revolution in Hayti, and the British steamer Woodlark has been hurried off to protect British interests.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Proposed Dummy Line.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., January 24, 1874.

The proposed dummy railroad extending to New Haven, a distance of nine miles from this point, has been productive of success. A company has been organized to put the matter through. The capital stock has been fixed at $50,000, two-thirds of which has already been taken. The work is to begin early in the spring, and be pushed to a speedy conclusion.

Negro Raid in Cuba.

HAVANA, January 23, via KEY WEST, January 24.—On the night of the 20th a band of negroes made a raid into Trinidad valley and burned the Mayagnara, Lasiajae and Sacra Familia plantations. They carried off all the slaves from Mayagnara plantation and completely destroyed the machinery by knocking it into pieces. The other two plantations suffered loss. Four thousand insurgents have surrounded Mazanillo. The government proposes to again embargo several estates which were lately released.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

France.

THE LATE EMPEROR'S CIVIL LIST.

PARIS, January 24.—The Assembly has appointed a committee to liquidate the civil list of the late Emperor Napoleon. It is said the majority of the members of the committee are opposed to the convention lately entered into by the government and Eugenie.

England.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT—DEATH OF ADAM BLACK.

LONDON, January 25.—The new Parliament will meet on the 5th of March. Adam Black is dead.

MR. WHALLEY RELEASED.

LONDON, January 25.—Mr. Whalley was discharged from confinement yesterday on payment of his fine.

Italy.

HEALTH OF THE POPE.

ROME, January 25.—The Pope has recovered from his recent indisposition.

Spain.

RETURN OF ADMIRAL TOPETE.

MADRID, January 25.—Admiral Topete has returned from Cartagena and resumed his duties as Minister of Marine. The publication of the *Igualidad* newspaper has again been suspended for a month.

REPORTED CARLIST SUCCESSES.

BAYONNE, January 25.—The Carlists report that Santander and Portugalete surrendered unconditionally to their forces on the 22d inst., and that the entire Segova battalion, a number of artillerymen and engineers, 1,200 Remington and 400 minnie rifles and two cannon fell into their hands.

Marine News.

LONDON, January 24.—The steamships State of Pennsylvania and Algeria have arrived out.

European Markets.

LONDON, January 24.—Consols for money, 91¾@92; for account, 92@92¼; 5-20's, '65, 105¾; 5-20's, '67, 106¾; 10-40's, 105¾; new 5's 104¾; New York Central 95¾; Erie, 44@44¾; Erie preferred, 69¾. Sperm oil £96@97.

PARIS, January 24.—Rentes 68 francs 30 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, January 24.—Cotton dull at 8@8¼d; sales 8,000 bales; American 3,200; speculation and export 1,000. Breadstuffs quiet. Corn 42s. Lard 44s. Others unchanged.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 24, 1874.

HOUSE.

The House met for general discussion; Mr. Merriam in the chair.

Speeches were made by Mr. Bundy on the financial question, by Messrs. Robbins and Cain on civil rights, and Messrs Biery and Kelley on the financial, currency and banking questions. But few members were present, and the discussion presented no features of public interest.

CRIMES.

Setting a Jail on Fire.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CANNELVILLE, O., January 24, 1874.

An attempt was made this morning about ten o'clock to set the jail on fire by some notorious Baltimore roughs within it. After a severe struggle with them they were confined to a dungeon and the fire extinguished.

The Late Reported Murder.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MCCONNELLSVILLE, O., January 24, 1874.

It now appears that Mr. Applebee, who was reported as being murdered at Piantsville, committed suicide by hanging. He has been partially deranged for some time.

A Miner Shot in Pittston.

WILKESBARRE, PA., January 24.—Yesterday afternoon a miner was walking along the main street of Pittston, on his way home from work, when a stranger on the sidewalk, apparently watching for some one, approached and shot the miner dead. Half a dozen persons who witnessed the shooting attempted to arrest the murderer, but he threatened to shoot any one who interfered, and passing down the street disappeared in an alley way, and has not been seen since.

A Man Shot in a Saloon.

NASHVILLE, TENN., January 24.—Maurice Egan, newsagent of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, was shot at half-past eight o'clock to-night, in the Merchants Exchange saloon, in this city, by Powers, a gambler from Louisville.

STATE LEGISLATURES.

North Carolina.

RALEIGH, January 24.—The Senate to-day passed the Usury bill. The penalty fixed for charging any rate of interest exceeding eight per cent. is forfeiture of the claim.

Congressmen from North Carolina were instructed to endeavor to have a law passed fixing a uniform rate of interest throughout the country.

A resolution of impeachment was introduced in the House against Judge S. A. Watts, for high crimes and misdemeanors in office.

Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, January 24.—The Committee on Criminal Jurisprundence of the State Senate having reported yesterday that Judge Primm, of the St. Louis Criminal Court, could not be removed by an address, a resolution was adopted by the House to-day instructing the Judiciary Committee to investigate the matter, and if the allegations justify such action, to take the necessary steps for his impeachment.

Kansas.

ST. LOUIS, January 25.—Topeka specials give no definite information regarding the Senatorial contest. No candidate has been nominated by either party and indications become stronger daily that the struggle will be a free fight between the dozen or more aspirants. Ex-District Attorney Scofield, who is now in this city, published a card denying that he intends to make exposure regarding Senator Ingalls, as alleged. He further says that the information upon which the *Globe* special telegraphs from here on Friday night was based was evidently invented to impair Senator Ingalls' influence.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The postoffice, a hotel and a dry goods store were burned at Brook Haven, Miss., on Saturday, the damage amounting to $15,000.

A man named Layton committed suicide at San Francisco on Saturday by shooting himself with a pistol.

The prospects are excellent in California for an abundant harvest.

The first convention of instructors of deaf mutes is in session in Worcester, Mass.

The brig T. Mirella Smith has arrived at Falmouth, Jamaica, dismantled and with the loss of three of the crew in a gale.

In the McCarty-Mordecai duel case at Richmond, Va., the jury on Friday night returned a verdict of involuntary manslaughter and fixed the fine at $500. Counsel for defense asked for a suspension of judgment and moved to set aside the verdict.

The arrest of Mr. Renaud, of the Howard Association at Memphis, on a charge of embezzlement, appears to have been caused by a statement of his wife, on account of jealousy. His books have been examined and show nothing wrong in the accounts.

The anniversary of the birthday of the poet Burns was celebrated by the St. Andrew's Society at Memphis by a supper.

Wm. E. Littleton has declined the nomination for Mayor of Philadelphia as independent candidate. Mayor Stokley, Republican, is now the only candidate in the field.

An attempt was made on Saturday morning, by some prisoners confined in Sardis, Mississippi, jail, to burn the building in order to escape. But for the prompt efforts of the sheriff, aided by the citizens, the jail must have been burned and the prisoners perished with it. As it was, but little damage was done.

The second quinquennial session of the Constitutional Grand Lodge of B'nai B'rith of the United States was commenced in Chicago yesterday. There were 150 delegates present. Mr. Simon Koch, of Washington, D. C., was elected permanent President. After organization the President presented to M. Franiand, a prominent member of the order at Memphis, a beautiful Maltese cross, in admiration of his heroic conduct during the prevalence of the yellow fever in that city.

The Amhurst College Boating Association have unanimously resolved not to row at Saratoga.

The grammar school building connected with Bishop College, Lennoxville, Canada, was burned yesterday morning. The boys narrowly escaped with their lives and lost all their effects. Loss $35,000; partially insured.

The Pacific Stock Yards of St. Louis have been purchased by the National Stock Yard Company of East St. Louis for a quarter of a million dollars. It is alleged that the North Missouri Yards also will be bought by the same company, and that the entire live stock business of St. Louis will soon be concentrated in East St. Louis.

Within a short time nearly a dozen forged certified checks on the First National bank of Hartford, Conn., have been received. They are signed by H. H. Winship and W. A. Calloway. The forger during the past week has been operating west.

Yesterday afternoon the schooner Franklin Rogers capsized ten miles east of Boston light during a heavy squall, and sunk in three minutes. Captain Rogers and two of the crew were lost.

FROM COLUMBUS, O.

The Democratic "Leaders" and their Ambitions—The "Young Democracy"—Three Weeks of Legislating, and But One Bill Passed—The Great "Reform" Measures Not Yet Out of the Shell—Cleveland Fired of Her Superior Court—The Lobby Not Yet Present in Force—Removal of the Mahoning County Seat from Canfield to Youngstown.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

COLUMBUS, O., January 24, 1874.

I am inclined to think that the rejuvenated party of Reform, as it loves to be called, that has now got possession of the legislative halls and of the Governor's office in this State, and proposes to run things for the next two years, is doomed to some disappointment and vexation of spirit. The great trouble with it just at present is an excess of talent. There are altogether too many commissioned officers for the rank and file, who are expected to do the fighting—too many leaders and too few followers—to make a glorious success of its proposed campaign.

Take John G. Thompson, for instance, the Senator from this district. He has been chairman of the Executive Committee six or seven years, and in that time has managed a good many district campaigns and one that was successful. John makes politics a profession, and often is so mysterious in his movements that his own followers fail to give him support because they don't understand him. He doesn't stop long to ask whether it is friend or foe who is in his way, but incontinently pushes him out if he is able, and goes around if he isn't. John is looking for the seat in Congress now occupied by Jewett, and expects to get it next fall, when it is said Jewett will decline being a candidate.

Next, take "Jim" Newman. He is another leader, or claims to be one. With less ability than Thompson, he has more cunning. The two are almost inseparable, but each has his own ambition, and each is a measure the rival of the other for the leadership of the State. Newman also would like to go to Congress, and if they get the redistricting bill through this winter, it is altogether likely that the Scioto district will be for his particular use.

Then there is Worthington, a little, dried up, withered-looking old man, who seems to be all brain and no body. He believes in close communion at the political feast, but apparently has no ambition in politics. His greatest desire seems to be to get even with somebody. The people of Cincinnati, whom he represents, have twice voted money to build a Southern railroad. The law to enable them to do so has been sustained by the Supreme Court, yet he goes around threatening vengeance on them for wanting it, and declaring that he will upset the whole arrangement before he is done here. The Supreme Court of the United States does not suit him, because he is not on the bench, and so he introduces a proposition to have a new Constitution made, and at the same time provides a plan for an Appellate Court, that shall outrank it in jurisdiction. Crafty as a Machiavelli, he is forever upsetting his plans by telling what he will accomplish by them. Aspiring to leadership, he fails in two things: he is neither plausible nor impertinable.

Reid, of the Delaware district, is another leader in the Senate. He belongs to the old school of Democratic politicians, and is an out-spoken, frank man. I think he has no political aspirations, his presence here at this time being against his own wishes. He is opposed to the Thompson rule of the party, and does not hesitate to make his hostility known. He can take with him enough support to kill any measure that requires a strict party vote, though I don't believe uses his influence that way except in an extraordinary case.

Looking in on the House we have Eshelman, the modern Atlas, bearing the world on his shoulders. He represents the Thurman influence, and his devotion to the cause of Uncle and Nephew surpasses the ordinary love of man. Near Eshelman sits White, of Crawford, a close party man when others want to break ranks, but a great stickler by himself. When he was elected he published a card saying that he would not vote for Thurman as Senator; but when it came to the election of a Sergeant-at-arms to the House, he threatened party expulsion and defeat to all measures of those who were willing to give the place to a competent man not strictly in the fold. Then there is Hoag, the somewhat flippant but altogether agreeable chairman of the Judicial Committee, who is perhaps the most influential member on the Democratic side. These are all now in the Thurman interest. On the other side there is Converse, the Speaker, elected on a sort of compromise. He has his followers among the young Democracy, and it is now believed that if they had known their strength and combined, they could have made Thurman's election at least a very difficult problem. Now that it is over, there are a dozen of them who say they would rather have seen Pendleton in the Senate; and if they had had a leader to make the start for him, they would have fought for him to the end. Thus far they have all stood together pretty well in the House, but already thereare signs of discontent at the close party rule that is enforced upon them on all occasions.

The reform legislation that was promised so loudly has hardly begun to show itself as yet. About the only measures that have been proposed, aside from business matters and early adjournments, have been those to redistrict the State for the election of Congressmen and to legislate the various benevolent institutions into the hands of the Democratic Governor. Three weeks have been consumed, and only a single bill has been passed, and that was to give the Governor a stamp with which to affix his signature to documents. The great trouble seems to be that most of the members don't know what they want; while those who do, don't know how to go about getting it.

Cleveland, already tired of the Superior Court which she obtained last spring, is now here to ask that it be reduced to the level of a Common Pleas Court. A bill was introduced in the Senate, yesterday, to amend the law creating a Superior Court of Cleveland, so as to provide that cases shall be appealed from it to the District Court, just as they now are from the Common Pleas. Accompanying it is the petition of almost every member of the bar of that city, showing either that they have not much confidence in that new tribunal, or else were all disappointed in not being elected judges, and so want to loopoff its usefulness as an independent court and make it part of the judicial system which has become so offensive to our people for its delayed justice.

The lobby can hardly be said to have become established as yet. A few straggling pioneers have come in to see that their interests are looked after; but there has been no systematic lobby influence felt so far. A deputation of two or three from Mahoning county came in yesterday to see about the fight that is to take place over the proposed change in county seats. They represent the interests of Canfield, the present county seat, and are quietly buttonholing members and suggesting that it is better to allow no change to be made. The member from Mahoning was elected to recover the transfer of the county seat to Youngstown, which has strong claims, because of its population and business advantages, and I think he will have little difficulty in accomplishing what he came for. GUILDEFOILE.

A Monster Scheme.

News of the latest grand fertilizing scheme comes from California. It is proposed to construct a canal 130 miles long and 100 feet wide, along the base of the Sierra Nevada, so as to irrigate the San Joaquin Valley. The canal running along the foothills is intended to cross the San Joaquin, the Fresno, the Chowchilla, the Mariposa, Bear Creek, the Merced, the Tuolumne, and the Stanislaus, deriving a water supply from each. It is thought that such a canal would reclaim about 2,000,000 acres of nominally unproductive lands, and make it like the balance of the great San Joaquin Valley, the most fertile and best wheat land in the world. The estimated cost per mile of the main canal is $100,000, with an additional cost for the lateral ditches. The State will be asked to issue bonds for the cost of construction, the amount so expended to be reimbursed by a tax on the land benefited and by tolls from the canal. The revenue from this source is estimated at $1,650,000 per year. Land which is now worth only $5 per acre, it is thought would be made worth $50 per acre. Every farmer is to be allowed to own his own canal boat, and to run it, while manufacturers will be allowed to occupy the improved water power afforded.

LIVERPOOL papers inform us that shipbuilding on the Clyde continues dull, and the business is languishing, the number of vessels built there during the past year being 194, against 227 in 1872. Had not many of the ships built last year been contracted for previously, the falling off in the number would have been greater. The decrease is wholly confined to steamers. The orders on hand by the various shipbuilders on the Clyde at the present time are considerably below the number at the end of the two previous years. There is every reason to believe that shipbuilding in the United States the present year will show more decided progress than last year. The cost of American built vessels is now about the same as that of the best Provincial ships. On the Delaware river, the Clyde of America, iron ship building is in a very prosperous condition. All the signs are of the most encouraging order.

THERE are precedents for the long-continued and existing mild winter weather. In 1735, 1738, and 1740, January and February were "summer months." In 1751 spring commenced in January, and the frost was all out of the ground in February. In 1760 January was like March, and March like May. The year 1773 was also marked by a very mild winter. The New York *Gazette and Post Boy*, of February 27, 1775, reports that "last Wednesday the weather was so uncommon warm that many young lads went into the river to swim."

The receipts of grain at Chicago, last year, were 96,731,598 bushels, and the shipments 91,035,763 bushels. The receipts of hogs were 4,360,000 head, cattle, 765,000, sheep, 300,000, lumber, 1,084,993,000 feet. Total value of produce received during the year, $240,000,000.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Louisville and Portland Canal.

GENERAL VAN BUREN AGAIN.

Legal Tender Currency Question

The Case of Captain Michener

Impeachment of Judge Durell.

THE EAGLE AND THE CROW,

A Black and White Discussion.

The Centennial Exposition.

KU-KLUX IN MISSISSIPPI.

THE LOUISIANA ELECTION.

District of Columbia Government.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1874.

Louisville and Portland Canal Bonds.

Judging from the opinions expressed by members of the House Committee on Commerce, the bill in regard to the payment of the bonds of the Louisville and Portland Canal Company, as amended by the Senate on Friday, will be reported favorably and will relieve the Secretary of the Treasury from the present embarrassment in completing the acquisition of that important water link between the upper and lower Ohio.

General Van Buren Again.

The Senate Committee on Commerce have received with some surprise the nomination of General Van Buren, the deposed American Commissioner to the Vienna Exposition, to be Consul at Kana-Gowa, Japan. The consideration of this nomination will, from present indications, lead to an inquiry into the circumstances of the national disgrace at Vienna last summer. The committee take the ground that if Van Buren was guilty of the charges—and it would so seem from his removal—then he should not be sent abroad as consul; and if not guilty, then the Secretary of State should explain his action and that of Mr. Jay, the Minister to Vienna. In the opinion of the committee the nomination of Van Buren is an admission of the mistake of the Secretary of State.

Legal Tender Currency.

On Wednesday next the Committee on Ways and Means will commence the discussion of the bill reported on Thursday to reenact the laws of 1865 and 1866 in relation to the legal tender currency. Although Mr. Dawes reported the bill from the committee, his political aspirations, his presence here at this time being against his own wishes. He is opposed to the Thompson rule of the party, and does not hesitate to make his hostility known. He can take with him enough support to kill any measure that requires a strict party vote, though I don't believe uses his influence that way except in an extraordinary case.

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News of the latest grand fertilizing scheme comes from California. It is proposed to construct a canal 130 miles long and 100 feet wide, along the base of the Sierra Nevada, so as to irrigate the San Joaquin Valley. The canal running along the foothills is intended to cross the San Joaquin, the Fresno, the Chowchilla, the Mariposa, Bear Creek, the Merced, the Tuolumne, and the Stanislaus, deriving a water supply from each. It is thought that such a canal would reclaim about 2,000,000 acres of nominally unproductive lands, and make it like the balance of the great San Joaquin Valley, the most fertile and best wheat land in the world. The estimated cost per mile of the main canal is $100,000, with an additional cost for the lateral ditches. The State will be asked to issue bonds for the cost of construction, the amount so expended to be reimbursed by a tax on the land benefited and by tolls from the canal. The revenue from this source is estimated at $1,650,000 per year. Land which is now worth only $5 per acre, it is thought would be made worth $50 per acre. Every farmer is to be allowed to own his own canal boat, and to run it, while manufacturers will be allowed to occupy the improved water power afforded.

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The plan of relief for the Southern Pacific Railroad, which will soon be introduced in Congress, is briefly as follows: All lands of the company to be sold by a commissioner appointed under the authority of the United States, and the proceeds placed in the Treasury to the credit of the company, the government to retain the amount charged for transportation of mails and the carrying service. The company ask the United States to guarantee interest on five per cent. bonds running for thirty years to a limited sum per mile. In consideration of such accommodation the company propose to pay to the government a liberal per cent. on the gross earnings, thus securing the government from loss.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The new Chief Justice will take his seat on the reassembling of the Supreme Court after recess.

THE LOUISIANA ELECTION.

The bill proposing a new State election in Louisiana is in the hands of Senator Carpenter and Gen. Butler. Senator Thurman disavows any formal consultation with them regarding the features of the measure.

THE PRESIDENT AND ELECTION DISPUTES.

Numerous paragraphs have recently appeared in newspapers stating what the President would or would not do in relation to Louisiana and other public matters now attracting general attention, and the President is sometimes represented as having expressed views which he certainly does not entertain and which would be contrary to the course he has heretofore pursued. Reports prevail that the President has differences with political friends, and is disposed to act altogether independent of them, but it is known from those having intimate relations with him that the reports are unfounded; nor is it probable that any differences are likely to exist except such as may be inseparable from the views the President may himself take of his constitutional duties, and the official responsibility which attaches to his office. Acting in accordance with the constitutional requirements that the President shall from time to time give Congress information of the state of the Union, he is now engaged in the preparation of a message which he will submit to the Cabinet before transmitting it to Congress. This message will, according to present understanding, be confined to a plain but elaborate statement of facts attending federal proceedings in Louisiana in support of the United States judicial decisions which he had no authority to disregard, whatever may have been his own opinions upon the political questions offered by them. It is positively known that the President has not interfered in any way with the Louisiana question relating to seats either in the Senate or House of Representatives. To Louisianians of both parties who have called upon him, he has repeatedly said that such questions properly belong to Congress, the Constitution making each House judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members, and that the consideration of such questions involves the subject of legal authority under which the certificates of election issue. So the one question necessarily affects the other, and both could at the same time be determined. This, in substance, is the reply he has unreservedly given to those who have interrogated him on the subject of the bill proposed to be passed by Congress, ordering a new election in Louisiana. He has discouraged such legislation, and while thus opposing Congressional interference, he has no hesitation in saying to visitors, as he repeated yesterday, that there was no doubt that the late election in Louisiana was an organized fraud from beginning to end, for the benefit of those now in possession of the government of that State, and that there has never yet been a fair count of the votes, the results having been reached by dishonest means too well known to be repeated. It is therefore not probable that he will in his forthcoming special message make any recommendation for a new election, this opinion, as recently privately expressed, being that Congress has no more right to order a new election in Louisiana than it has in any other State because of a local conflict, all States now being equal in the Union—and are as much entitled to the same general protection from illegal or unconstitutional interference by any branch of the federal government as they are against invasion or domestic violence; and besides there are means to settle the Louisiana and all kindred cases without resort to Congressional acts ordering a new election.

HOUSEKEEPING REPORTS.

General Humphreys, Chief of the Engineer Corps, will make his report in a few days. It will generally be in favor of the feasibility and utility of the St. Philip ship canal, near the mouth of the Mississippi. General Barnard's report will favor a system of jetties.

SYKES VERSUS SPENCER.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections will to-morrow take up the case of Sykes, who contests the Senatorial seat of Spencer, the present incumbent.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 24, 1874.

RUMORS AND PRECAUTIONS.

The Superintendent of Police, while admitting that some danger of disturbance still existed among a portion of the unemployed workingmen, denies all knowledge of any foundation for the statement that an order has been issued for the protection of churches, owing to the threats made by the Communistic leaders, nor does the captain of the precinct in which the convent of St. Catherine is situate know of a foundation for the rumor that the institution was to be burned by the more desperate of the Communist leaders. A large force of police, however, was held in reserve last night at headquarters convenient to the convent.

THREE BOYS DROWNED.

By the breaking of the ice on a pond in South Brooklyn to-day, three boys were drowned.

ONE THOUSAND MEN DISCHARGED.

One thousand men have been discharged from the navy yard during the past week.

THE "TRIBUNE" BUILDING.

The corner-stone of the new *Tribune* building was laid to-day according to programme.

NEW YORK, January 25, 1874.

THE LATE SIAMESE TWINS.

A dispatch from Mount Very, N. C., says that Doctor Hollingsworth, who attended the Siamese twins, is of the opinion that the death of Eng was caused by any vital connection or artery passing from one to the other through the ligament that united them, and believes that there was no such vital connection through the ligament, because he has attended the twins when one was sick and the other in good health and when there was as much as twenty beats difference to a minute in their pulsation. The bodies, after being embalmed, were placed in a coffin and encased in a large tin box, which was soldered and made air-tight. All were then put in a large wooden box and packed in charcoal, and made secure and placed in the cellar of the house. It is reported that the bodies will be disposed of at an enormous price to some museum or medical college, or placed on exhibition. This is the subject to the decision of members of the family. A charge is made that a veil of mystery has been thrown over the deaths of the twins, and the real cause of the disease suppressed for the purpose of obtaining possession of the bodies for the above stated object. A dispatch from Greensboro says that Dr. Joe Hollingsworth, brother of the Doctor who attended the twins, while *en route* for the North stated that his mission was to dispose of the dead bodies of the twins on the most favorable terms he could negotiate. The sum asked for the privilege of a *post mortem* is stated to be eight to ten thousand dollars.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

Arrived, the steamers Herder from Hamburg, Anglia from Glasgow, and Mosel from Bremen.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1 A. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England generally clear and cold weather will prevail, with northwesterly to southwesterly winds and rising barometer during a portion of the day. For the Middle and South Atlantic States, clear or fair weather, with low temperature, high barometer and northerly to variable winds. For the Eastern Gulf States, cloudy weather, with northeasterly to southeasterly winds, falling barometer and no decided change of temperature. For the Tennessee and the Ohio valley, falling barometer, rising temperature, light to gentle easterly to southerly winds, with fair weather during the day. For the Lake region, falling barometer, with increasing cloudiness, and possibly light snow in the lower Lake region. For the Northwest, generally cloudy weather, with rising temperature, falling barometer and southerly winds.

Midnight Bulletin.

JANUARY 25, 1874—10:48 P. M.

PLACE OF OBSERVATION.	Ther.	Wind.	Weather.
Cincinnati, O.	24	S.	Fair.
Davenport, I.	20	E.	Cloudy.
Indianapolis	28	Calm.	Fair.
Keokuk	26	S.	Cloudy.
Louisville, Ky.	33	S.	Clear.
Memphis, Tenn.	41	N. E.	Cloudy.
Nashville, Tenn.	32	Calm.	Clear.
New Orleans	50	N. E.	Cloudy.
Omaha, Neb.	17	Calm.	Fair.
Pittsburgh, Pa.	17	N.	Clear.
Shreveport, La.	48	E.	Cloudy.
St. Louis, Mo.	31	S.	Cloudy.
St. Paul	7	S. E.	Cloudy.
La Crosse	8	S. E.	Fair.

CASUALTIES.

An Infant Shooting Itself with a Pistol.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

EMMITSBURG, MD., January 24, 1874.

A sad accident occurred two miles from here to-day. A child of Jas. Sweeny, two years old, wandered up stairs where a pistol was left lying in a box. On hearing a report the mother, too much alarmed to go herself, sent a little daughter, who returned carrying the dead body in her arms, shot through the heart.

Three Barges Sunk.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BELLAIR, O., January 24, 1874.

The towboat Panther struck the bridge at two o'clock this afternoon, and sunk three barges.

Death by a Fall.

CLEVELAND, January 24.—Frank T. Evingham, aged fifteen, was killed yesterday afternoon by falling through a hatchway at No. 89 River street.

A Train Comes to Grief.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., January 24.—The engine and eight cars were ditched on the Southern division of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad, twenty miles from this city yesterday. The brakeman is seriously hurt. The accident was caused by the washing out of a culvert by the late rains.

A Child Poisoned.

COLUMBUS, January 25.—Emma Sheridan, aged seven years, daughter of Michael Sheridan, to-day found a bottle containing some poisonous liquid in a cupboard at home, and drank freely of it, and died in three hours.

Chief Justice Waite at Toledo.

TOLEDO, O., January 24.—Chief Justice Waite arrived in this city on Saturday morning, to act as pall-bearer at the funeral of the late Jessup W. Scott, whom he had known for thirty-five years. He returned to Cincinnati on Saturday night and expects, on Tuesday, to resign his positions as President and member of the State Constitutional Convention. He will return to Toledo on Wednesday, and leave for Washington the following day to enter upon the discharge of his new official duties.

THE LARGEST

And Only Exclusive Flour House

IN THE CITY.

*Our customers have made this by keeping RISING SUN

The Daily Commercial.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1874.

WORK in the anthracite coal regions of this State will be resumed to-day, a compromise having been effected by which the miners agree to work, and the operators to pay, on the $2 50 basis of last year during the present year.

"STUMP-SPEAKERS are under obligations to the Philadelphia *Press* for a new paraphrase of the word 'copperhead.' It is 'a conscienceless Northern recusant.' Very good, indeed!"—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

—Thank you. Only it was not the *Press:* it was this paper, in answer to that.

DESCANTING on the "galling tyranny" of the government which permits him to foam out his treasonable ravings without the slightest interruption on its part, TOOMBS tells his eager Georgia auditors: If these oppressions continue, I will show you, young men, that an old man can die." The sooner the better, ROBERT.

AND now the New York *Herald* modestly claims to have been the first to propose the nomination of Mr. WAITE for Chief Justice of the United States; but its retiring disposition prevents it from adding the universally understood fact that it also brought about the late marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with the Grand Duchess MARIE.

SENATOR THURMAN, in a recent speech, paid a high compliment to the Republican party, by calling attention to the fact that New York stood "redeemed in the line of Democratic States." This is quite true. The Empire State has a Republican Governor, a Republican Legislature, and a Republican majority in Congress. It was a handsome tribute from an unwilling source.

IT IS encouraging to note the fact that the internal revenue is being received in such volume as to inspire the Secretary of the Treasury with the belief that he will be able to get along after the remainder of the reserve shall have been exhausted. It is also suggested that, as the price of gold is going up, he may be able to renew his sales of gold, which would have the effect of increasing the currency circulation.

THE Kentucky Senate, which recently refused to permit the United States flag to be raised over the State House during its session, has now, by a large majority, defeated a bill for the suppression of lawlessness in that bandditi-ridden Commonwealth. It is understood that the KU-KLUX intend to compliment that body by the passage of a suitable resolution of thanks for these vital proofs of patriotism and devotion to the true interests of society.

A CONVENTION of the leading Israelites of the United States will be held in Chicago, to-day, for the purpose of perfecting measures whereby to keep more strongly alive the love of faith and fatherland, to promote harmony and fraternal feelings among the Israelites in this country, and to protect and aid the needy and afflicted brethren. The convention promises to be one of the most interesting ever held, and its membership will include some of the leading minds and most prominent humanitarians among the Jewish people of the United States.

IN ACCORDANCE with the resolution passed at the last annual meeting of the American Iron and Steel Association, a call has been issued for a union meeting of manufacturers of all forms of iron and steel in the United States, to be held in Philadelphia, on the 5th of February next. A special meeting of the association from which the call emanates, will be held in the same city on the day preceding, for the transaction of important business. The object of the second day's meeting is to bring about a closer and more efficient union of all the iron industries of the country.

ENGLAND is beginning to lose its centuried prestige as the workshop of the world. The Board of Trade returns for December again show a serious falling off in the exports of British produce and manufactures. The total value of these exports is £19,147,506, as compared with £20,516,233 in December, 1872, showing a decrease of £1,368,747, or nearly seven per cent, while the imports also exhibit a considerable increase both in value and quantity. The aggregate valuation is £33,121,559, as compared with £29,341,917 in December, 1872, showing an increase of £3,779,642, or thirteen per cent.

THE Southern Grangers complain of the immense emigration from the borders of their States of colored laborers, but they do not seem to be at all conscious of the fact that the remedy, at least to a very large extent, is in their own hands. The prime difficulty is that the whites of that section cannot be brought to regard the negro in any other light than a being of inferior order, whose emancipation and enfranchisement were positive acts of oppression and injustice toward his former owners; out of which feeling arises nearly the whole brood of discontentednesses, which attach to the labor problem of that quarter.

THE mania for stock speculation is raging like a pestilence on the Pacific coast. Everything in the shape of mining stocks has advanced enormously, owing chiefly to the indications of new bodies of ore in several of the old mines. It is no unusual thing for a stock to be selling for a mere nominal price one day, and by some corner run up to hundreds the next. Perhaps the very worst disease from which humanity suffers is the *auri sacra fames*. Greed of gold has deadened more conscience, demoralized more communities, and spread more widely abroad the gangrene of public corruption, than almost any other evil agency in the known world.

IF THE people are really earnest in their demand for governmental economy and retrenchment, now is the time for them to make the fact felt and known. All sorts of ingenious projects are being pushed in Congress to get money out of the national treasury. The number of private claims runs away up into the thousands, involving an aggregate amount which a hundred millions would not meet; and still they come, backed up by a powerful lobby, representing almost as many millions of dollars as the claims themselves, while, back of it all, there glooms the pregnant fact of an empty treasury, and a well-nigh exhausted reserve. Hands off, gentlemen.

AN IMPORTANT decision regarding the validity of State titles to Congressional land grants for railroad purposes, has just been rendered by Judge DILLON, of the United States Circuit Court of Iowa, to the effect that, while Congressional grants confer legal title, it is only as a strict trust, and that a State can dispose of such lands only for the purpose for which they are granted; while the right to the lands can only become perfect when a section of twenty continuous miles has been completed; and that until such portion has been built, the State cannot part with the title, nor can its grantee sell or mortgage such lands in advance of the final perfection of title.

JOBBERY has more lives than a cat. As soon as one plundering scheme is squelched in Congress, another rises in its place. Among the latest of these corrupt adroitnesses is a bill which has just been introduced by Representative KENDALL, a Democratic member from Nevada, to grant to that State a million acres of land for school purposes, in exchange for her present allotment. The real object of the bill, however, is simply to enable Nevada to abandon worthless lands and obtain a less quantity, which may be located within railroad grants, and thereby appropriate most of the valuable land of the State. A number of stock raisers of San Francisco, who have stock in the Humboldt valley, are interested in the bill, and expect by its passage to obtain control of the greater portion of the grazing and agricultural lands. Congress should put its foot down on this mercenary project with such emphasis as to tread the knavish breath out of its body.

THE Secretary of War has made an economical suggestion to the proper Congressional Committee looking to the abolition of a number of United States armories and arsenals, and the concentration and enlargement of others. The following are those proposed for retention, east of the Mississippi: The national armory in Massachusetts, for the manufacture of small arms; Watervliet arsenal in New York, for the manufacture of heavy carriages; leather work, etc., and Frankford arsenal in our own State, for the manufacture of ammunition and explosives. Should circumstances render it necessary to begin the manufacture of cannon by the ordnance department, Frankford arsenal, which is in close proximity to our coal and iron beds, would be selected for the construction of cannon, while the manufacture of ammunition and explosives would be transferred to the national armory at Springfield, Massachusetts. The arsenal in this city would be abolished.

THE recent financial revulsion and its concomitant difficulties have evoked more earnest attention and discussion in regard to the present system governing Savings banks than has heretofore obtained. Depositors are anxious to obtain better security and facilities for the quick withdrawal of their money without submission to arbitrary rules, while bank officers and stockholders desire to secure permanent relief from "runs" and a too sudden withdrawal of deposits. The latter are also opposed to any examinations which would tend to expose the accounts of private individuals. In Illinois *it is* proposed to establish a Clearing House association composed of bankers doing business under the State laws, for the better regulation of the savings bank business and the appointment for that purpose of those of its members who have the implicit confidence of all concerned, and who would be empowered to act as a supervisory committee, with authority to make proper examinations of any and all banks coming under their jurisdiction. The suggestion is said to meet with great favor.

TROUBLESOME QUESTION IN JAPAN.

It is not surprising to learn that an increasing number of the more intelligent Japanese of the higher and ruling class begin to feel anxious about the future of their nation. Of course, Japanese conservatives, hostile to foreign commerce and intercourse, have always anticipated evil and only evil from the astonishing changes of the last seventeen years. The persons to whom we allude as at present feeling anxious, belong, and perhaps have always belonged, to the party of reform, but they fear that in their eagerness to adopt foreign ideas and practices they may have gone too fast and too far. Such apprehensions are by no means confined to the Japanese; careful observers among the foreign residents sometime ago saw and reported signs which, in their judgment, seriously threatened what seemed to be the useful results of the great and wonderful revolution which intercourse with the outside world had effected. It would indeed have been very remarkable if changes so radical and wide-reaching in the government and customs of a people had been completely carried out and had become established without evil consequences. The real cause for wonder is that in Japan they did not earlier show themselves with the effect of exciting alarm, and producing reaction, and if the signs referred to merely inspire caution and reserve and enforce the policy of making haste slowly, there is perhaps no reason to believe that the transformation of the wonderful empire will be, in the end, less perfect or less advantageous to the people.

In connection with the important part which Americans performed in opening Japan to the Western world, it is gratifying to see that their government is not disposed to unite with some other powers in enforcing or urging additional changes for which the Japanese authorities think they are not yet prepared. A claim of this kind has lately become a very embarrassing question to the Japanese. England, France, and Holland insist that, in fulfillment of the promise formerly given, the Japanese government shall at once lay open the entire territory of the empire to foreigners and permit them to trade, or travel, or settle down wherever they please. The demand fills the Japanese with concern. They allege that in parts of the empire, especially in the parts not yet frequented by Europeans, the people are still hostile to foreigners and dissatisfied with the entire system of policy recently introduced, and that consequently the presence of foreigners in such places might easily and most likely would give rise to acts liable to compromise the government and cause complications with the States to which the strangers belonged. However, the Mikado declared himself willing to yield the point demanded, on condition that foreign governments renounce the privilege of consular jurisdiction at present enjoyed by them—that is—that foreigners in Japan instead of being amenable only to the jurisdiction of their respective consuls shall be amenable to Japanese laws and magistrates like the Japanese themselves. The Mikado's proposal indicates clearly enough the ground of the Japanese objection to foreign residents. The fact is that Europeans living among dark-skinned orientals are apt to abuse their conscious superiority of strength and dignity in a manner very likely to cause trouble. As the Hindoos say of the "Sahibs," the English who rule them, 'Drinking burning liquid (brandi-pani) and bottled thunder (soda-water), they cannot help being zabardast (violent)." In Japan it is the same, where Americans in spite of their democracy, no doubt manifest their superiority with as much emphasis as the Briton. No wonder the Japs desire to have all such strong sojourners subject to police interference. On the other hand, it is no wonder that the foreign powers unanimously decline the condition. Japanese laws are still the laws of a semi-civilized people, of orientals, of the subjects of an old pagan despotism, and they are administered in a way which no christian could or should endure.

Having rejected this Japanese proposition, the representatives of England, France and Holland, resolved to carry their point—the opening of the interior to their commerce—then demanded the immediate payment of a large money indemnity, $2,000,000, which the Japanese government owes on account of the Simonoseki affair of some years ago. But this proved a bad move on the part of the diplomatists, as the Japanese declared themselves ready to pay the money at once, and then proceeded to issue a decree in which they withdrew from Britons, Frenchmen and Dutchmen certain privileges not secured by treaty, but which they had before enjoyed through the liberality of the government. Thus foiled, the representatives then offered to renounce the indemnity or their government's share of the Simonoseki indemnity, in exchange for or in acknowledgement of the concession of their demand. But the Japanese replied that the opening of the country to foreigners was a political question, in the settlement of which money could have no influence. And they further replied that, in the adjustment of the question, they could not recognize in the representatives of England, France and Holland any authority to act for other powers as Germany, Italy, Russia, etc., with whom Japan had treaties and who were equally interested in the subject. MR. BURLINGAME, the representative of the United States, is understood to have kept himself aloof from the whole dispute, and the American government is believed to disapprove of the demand made by England, France and Holland.

THE PHILADELPHIA ELECTION.

MR. JAMES BIDDLE, who lately received the Democratic nomination for Mayor of Philadelphia, has declined the honor offered him. He went through that mill once before, in 1871, and did not relish his experience on that occasion. STOKLEY beat him, then, *over* 10,000, and as there is a strong likelihood that the figures will this year rise to 20,000, BIDDLE very naturally declines such a second martyrdom.

There was a very strong feeling in the Democratic ranks, when the delegates were chosen who nominated BIDDLE, in favor of a straight-out Democratic candidate, and against any coalition with the Reformers; and the leaders, fearful that this feeling would lead to the nomination of RICHARD VAUX, who would be the last man in the world to decline if nominated, determined to dominate some one who could be got out of the way, and leave the road open to a coalition with the Reformers. BIDDLE was therefore chosen. They knew he would decline, and that his declination would leave them masters of the situation, if the rank and file did not, in the meantime, prove rebellious.

This declination is, then, a part of the programme for an ultimate union with the Reformers upon LITTLETON, and if accidents do not happen, that will be the result. The wiser and more thoughtful Democrats are in favor of a straight nomination, as the rank and file are, because they regard the "Reform" party as a mere noisy, frothy and uncertain element in politics, accomplishing no good and effective only in unsettling everything, and they would rather see it squelched than used as a separate organization for purposes of combination. But, unfortunately for the Democratic party, its wiser and more prudent men are not always or often predominant, and in this Philadelphia case they are not likely to have their way. The demagogues who rule the party in that city will force an combination with the Reformers, and LITTLETON will probably be the joint nominee of both organizations.

In the convention which nominated BIDDLE, several delegates from the strong Democratic wards declared that, if LITTLETON were nominated by the Democracy, a large portion of the party in their wards would go off and vote openly for STOKLEY. They would vote cheerfully for any Democrat; but if it came to choosing between two Republicans, such as STOKLEY and LITTLETON, they would prefer the genuine man to the bogus one. They know STOKLEY to be a good officer, as well as a true party man; and they feel that the man who is true to his opinions is always to be preferred to the man who is false to them and goes whoring after strange gods.

If, consequently, LITTLETON should be put up, by Democratic jugglery, as the joint Democratic and Reform candidate, the end will be STOKLEY'S triumphant re-election, and the disintegration of the Democratic party in that city. Those Democrats who are driven off to STOKLEY now, will not be likely to return to the fold from which they will regard them selves as having been driven out. In one ward, the delegates to the City Convention said this defection would embrace *one-half* of the party, and in another *one-third*. Under such circumstances the falling off must be a large one, and the Republicans of that city need not regret a coalition that renders their victory so easy and complete.

Since the above was written, LITTLETON has also declined, which indicates that some new name has been agreed on and not yet announced. Whoever he may be, his choice is the result of a bargain between the Democrats and Reformers.

THE FEBRUARY ELECTION.

The Attorney General gives it as his opinion that, where men were chosen in 1873 to fill local offices for the year 1874, and did not qualify before the new Constitution went into effect, they will have to be re-elected or be superseded at the February election. This is also the opinion of Judge ELDRED, as given in the Clearfield county case, where township officers for 1874 were chosen in December last.

If this view is to prevail, it raises a new question here. The question discussed here has been whether an election should be or could be held in February, 1874, for ward and city officers to serve in 1875, but the question settled by the Attorney General and Judge ELDRED is that the election in February, 1874, is simply to choose officers to serve in 1874, and it therefore supersedes and renders void the elections held in Pittsburgh and Allegheny City in December, 1873. If this view be the correct one, the election next month need be held only for Councilmen and ward officers, to serve for the current year, and the election for city officers need not take place until February, 1875, the Constitution keeping the present incumbents in office until their successors are chosen.

If this view is the correct one, the election in February, in 1874, is only to elect officers for that year, or those whose terms begin that year. This election the Attorney General holds to be necessary, because the persons elected in December were not, or could not be sworn in, before the new Constitution went into operation, and their election in December was consequently void. But officers (such as our elective city officers) whose terms do not begin until February, 1875, do not come within this category, and their cases are not embraced in the opinions given by the Attorney General and Judge ELDRED.

It will look something like a farce, it is true, to go through the forms of an election in February to fill offices already filled by an election held in December last; but if this election is necessary, it will be farcical only in appearance. The people, it is to be presumed, will generally re-elect those whom they have so lately chosen, and so render their tenure of office secure.

The decisions to which we have referred, it will be noticed, reach back sufficiently to determine that an election already held is void, but do not reach forward sufficiently to determine fully *who* or *what officers* are to be elected in February, 1874, beyond those already chosen here in 1873. We trust, therefore, that our courts will take the matter up at once and give a formal decision that will be regarded as final. The opinions of the Attorney General and Judge ELDRED, are, according to our understanding of them, mere *dicta*, and have not the force of decisions. Let us have an authoritative decision, and one that will cover all the questions involved.

THE Philadelphia papers, from the time the Election law was introduced into the Senate until the present, have either wilfully or ignorantly persisted in misrepresenting it. We do not marvel at such papers as the *Press* and the *Age* giving a false coloring to what is a measure; but the *Inquirer* ought to be above either the ignorance or the malice that such a course involves. What is to be thought of a paper which with the bill before it, says of it as the *Inquirer* does, in the following extracts from that paper of the 22d:

"The Registry law [of Philadelphia] which the new Election law of the Senate promised to perpetuate in all its most obnoxious features, was practically a violation of the letter and spirit of the Constitution. The decent, reputatable members of the party, in common with the decent reputable men of other parties, now make the demand for a law which will secure to them honestly contested elections and the award of certificates of election to those candidates receiving the greatest number of proper votes.

"The original Senate bill was not the suggestion of such a law. It was the suggestion of a law the sole aim of which was to defeud honest voters and honest counts.

"The amendments offered and accepted yesterday in the Senate show a better spirit on the part of the majority than was manifested on Tuesday."

The late Registry law of Philadelphia, to which the *Inquirer* refers, was *not* "perpetrated in all its most obnoxious features," by the new Election law of the Senate, nor were *any* of its features embodied in the new law. The "original Senate bill" was a copy of the Registry law of the *State*, an entirely different law to the Registry law of Philadelphia, and instead of being, as the *Inquirer* says it was, the suggestion of a law to defeat honest votes and counts, it was the suggestion of a law to secure honest voting and counting. The amendments offered and accepted on the 21st did not alter "the original Senate bill" in a single essential particular, and the bill as it passed the Senate, which the *Inquirer* commends, is almost letter for letter "the original Senate bill" which the same paper condemns.

It is mortifying to think that a paper published so near the scene of action should be so utterly ignorant of the real facts in the case, and its ignorance is almost as inexcusable as the deliberate malice and misrepresentation of the *Press*. A newspaper like the *Inquirer*, should scorn to follow in FORNEY'S wake, or to be misled by the mendacities of such Reform organs as HENRY C. LEA. It is only one hundred miles from Philadelphia to Harrisburg, and while it may be difficult, it is not impossible to obtain correct information from there, if such information is desirable.

AMERICAN iron holds its own against the world. The other evening a paper was read before the American Society of Civil Engineers, which is now in session in New York, giving the result of a number of experiments made in testing the strength of iron pins of different manufactures and quality. Specimens of the iron subjected to experiments were submitted with the paper. On Norway iron, it was found that a bar of the original diameter of 9.715 broke under a strain of 18,050 pounds, the tensile strength per square inch of original section being 121,460 pounds. English iron of the original diameter of 0.715 was found to fail under a strain of 19,030 pounds, the tensile strength per square inch of original section being 47,575 pounds. The strength of the contracted section per square inch of area was given at 62,567 pounds. The breaking strength of our best iron was found to be 50,340 pounds, the tensile strength per square inch of original section being 63,840 pounds. The tensile strength per square inch of the fractured section was 88,783 pounds. Another specimen of American iron of the original diameter of 1.00 sustained a strain of 39,250 pounds before giving way, the tensile strength per square inch of the original section of this quality being 49,974 pounds, and the tensile strength per square inch of the fractured section was given as 86,454 pounds. This statement is as creditable to the practical scientific knowledge and skill of our iron manufacturerers, as it should be gratifying to our national pride.

"MUNICIPAL insanity is such an uncommon but harmless form of mania, that it is well to make a note of it when discovered. Pittsburgh is the patient this time. It asks the nation to pay for the defensive earthworks it constructed when frightened by Lee's army in Virginia. As well might Chicago seek recompense for the oysters and liquor engulfed by the "home guards" when under arms for the protection of the city against the threatened outbreak of the rebel army encamped in Camp Douglas. Does Pittsburgh expect to be paid for its patriotic and heroic efforts at self-defense against an imaginary danger?"—*Chicago Post.*

Our Garden City contemporary evidently jumps at a conclusion, here. The municipality of Pittsburgh had nothing whatever to do with the petition for the reimbursement by the government of money expended in fortifying the city in 1863. It is an *individual* speculation, if we mistake not.

A PROPOSITION for the publication of the rebel archives purchased by the government some two years ago, will shortly be made in Congress. It is stated that Colonel PICKETT, from whom they were obtained, examined them carefully, making a complete list, and copying the most important—which copies, it is understood, he yet retains, the examination establishing in his mind the truth of the worst charges made against JEFFERSON DAVIS and his immediate advisers, as to their endeavors and plots to burn northern cities, introduce pestilence, raid on our frontiers, and perpetrate other acts of an inhuman and piratical character. Should the resolution pass, there will be a fearful quaking among the dry bones of many a political sepulchre.

THE city Republican Executive Committee have adopted resolutions for holding the primary elections on Saturday, February 7th, and the conventions to nominate a Mayor, Controller and Treasurer on Tuesday following, the 10th. There are to be three separate conventions, composed of one delegate from each election precinct. The action of the committee was almost unanimous, and has given entire satisfaction. The opinions of Attorney General DIMMICK and Judge ELDRED, referred to elsewhere, presents the election question in an entirely new phase, and indicates clearly that the only way out of the difficulty is by an application to the courts.

THE leaven is working in Connecticut. Some forty unmarried or widowed women of Saybrook, holding taxable—and taxed—property in their own right, have decided to petition the next Legislature for the right to vote on all town questions.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The new Chief Justice will enter upon his duties about the first of April.

New York's wickedest man has just died. His successor will be selected by competitive examination, and it is thought Dana will distance all the contestants.

A young widow lady in California owns a patch of land comprising 173,065 acres, and we should like to own her.

It costs $150,000 to pay the salaried tenore, bassos and screama donnas of the Boston church choirs. Artistic singing is quoted high among the gilt-edged church stocks.

Ohio proposes to investigate her lunatic asylums. That is well. Don't forget to look into the offices of the Cincinnati newspapers.

A project is on foot for depopulating New York city. A society for the suppression of vice has been organized there.

It is suggested that the local option principle should be applied to matters of finance, and that Congress should pass a law authorizing every man to resume specie payments who wants to.

The stringency in the Eastern egg market is said to be painful. There has been a large falling off in deposits of late, many of the hens having entirely suspended, while others are holding to their reserves. It is thought, however that nearly all will be able to resume in the spring.

Cincinnati is to give the new Chief Justice of the Supreme Court a banquet.

St. Paul papers are jesting about the false economy of an English mother who recently paid four dollars postage on a common shirt to her boy in that city, which he could have bought there for less than half the amount. Yes. But who shall compute for him the value of the great love that was stitched into the homely garment?

The present population of New Orleans is estimated at 230,985, an increase of 39,567 over the census of 1870. This makes it the eighth city in the Union, or next in size to Boston.

Last year the Union Pacific Railroad Company carried eastward 2,160 cars of grain of various sorts, most of which came from stations in Nebraska east of Grand Island. This shows that the Great American Desert is not as unproductive as is generally supposed.

The State Department favors a decided change in the consular service in Japan, and throughout the western ports of Asia.

A movement is on foot to raise our mission at Stockholm to an equal footing with that of the Swedish minister here.

Flimsy Mansard roofs and gingerbread cornices are rapidly disappearing before the underwriters' special rates.

Laugh at him as people may, Ruskin's Ideal of a community in which should be "simplicity of life without coarseness, and delight in life without lasciviousness," and wherein shall be achieved "the highest possible education of English men and women living by agriculture in their native land," is a most noble one.

The relatives of some of the persons lost in the ill-fated steamship Atlantic are about to endeavor to establish a claim for compensation against the owners.

Connecticut keeps up her traditional reputation as the mother of inventions. Last year there was one patent issued by the Patent Office for every 950 inhabitants in the State.

Several titled foreigners are just at present a bone of contention among match-making New York mammas with daughters in the market. The visitors are fairly overwhelmed with invitation cards.

"Civil Service Reform" seems to be tottering on its competitive examination throne. The House committee on the subject, it is understood, are opposed to the system, and will try to modify it or break it down entirely.

Three million dollars worth of cancelled railway mortgage bonds were consumed in Nashville the other day. They were put into a furnace, the draft was shut off to prevent the bonds from being drawn upward, and a rotary engine was run by the same fire that burned the bonds.

The great grief of a writer in the Cincinnati *Commercial* comes from the fact that some of the letter carriers in that city smoke cigars while going their rounds.

They have got a future-great-city man in Indianapolis. He has a made map showing the capital of Indiana to be the "central city of the Atlantic seaboard," whatever that is.

A company has been organized in Kansas for the curing and tanning of buffalo hides by some new patent process. The robes turned out are said to rival in softness of finish and texture the famous Cheyenne robes.

The trustees of the Antietam national cemetery ask the State of Illinois to join in commemorating the dead that are gathered upon the site of that battle field, by appropriating $7,804 72 to aid the adornment of the cemetery.

Apartment houses, or large buildings divided into residence flats, have proved a success in New York, where they have been tested for some time.

The Dresden housewives recently held a convention and pledged their faith and sacred honor, and the dinners of all they cared for, not to pay more than twenty cents a pound for beefsteak, nor over thirty for butter, and "advertised for proposals," as few dared do in the days of bread. Now let the Old World despotisms shake.

San Francisco is becoming Delawarized—she wants the whipping post. She has a number of young desperadoes who insult ladies "an a that."

There are some indications that an attempt will be made to make the question of cheap transportation, as connected with the bills providing for inter-State railroads, a party issue.

The quantity of coffee imported into the United States for the eight months ending August 31, 1872, was 50,872,199 pounds, valued at $7,500,136, and for the corresponding period of 1873, was 190,146,725 pounds, valued at $30,541,046. Has the enormous increase of the quantity increased the price?

The Spiritualists of New Haven propose to form a co-operative society in which all property shall be common. The institution of marriage will be preserved, however.

The *Pension Record* has been changed from a quarterly to a monthly issue. Its specialty is to keep its readers informed of all their rights under the pension laws.

The Conservative Legislature of Virginia recently reported in favor of unseating two Conservative members and seating two Radicals. This evidence of fairness is cheerfully recorded, as will be the result of the vote upon the question when taken.

PERSONAL.

The death of Madame Parepa-Rosa has created a deep feeling of sorrow, not only in musical circles but in society at large, to whom she had long been endeared, as well for her virtues as a woman as for her splendid accomplishments as an artist. The various musical and art societies of New York, as well as some of the clubs of which she was an honorary member, in due time will have a joint meeting to take becoming cognizance of the event. When the news was announced to Miss Kellogg, she was on the Academy stage, superintending a rehearsal, and was so overcome with emotion that the performance had to be temporarily suspended.

Shortly before his death, Chief Justice Chase spoke of Mr. Waite as the ablest lawyer at the Ohio bar.

James Russell Lowell, the poet, is still at Florence, whence he will return to us in the spring, stopping in Paris and London on his way home.

It is said that Nast has made more money than any new lecturer since Nasby, and yet he longs to be back in his studio.

Richard H. Dana, Sr., the old poet, the friend of Bryant and Irving, is spending his old age in reading, and listening to music. He is fast approaching ninety, and looks twenty years this side of it.

It is a little singular that from the class of 1837 in Yale College there should be three persons whose names have been connected with the Chief Justiceship. They were William M. Evarts, Edwards Pierrepont and Morrison R. Waite.

The daughter of General Myers is one of the Washington debutantes this winter who has at once become a raging belle. The Probabilities are not given out yet.

Mr. Ruby recently married Miss Jett in Maryland. A jet was lost in a ruby setting, and the bride remarked, upon the conclusion of the osculatory exercises, that no *jet d'eau* in the world would compare with one smack of the ruby; and that she felt quite bright-ened up since her change from jet to ruby.

Miss Carroll, of Maryland, a granddaughter of the signer of the Declaration of Independence, petitions Congress for five thousand dollars for services rendered the Union troops during the Confederate war. She was faithful among the faithless and underwent many trials and hardships, rendering active aid to the Washington authorities. Colonel Scott, then Assistant Secretary of War, Hon. Ben Wade, President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton have all favored her claims, which were reported on by a committee in 1870, but could not be acted upon before adjournment. Miss Carroll is now old and in reduced circumstances.

That great Webber inheritance in Holland, about which supposed heirs have been worrying, turns out to be nowhere. Nothing is known about it by the authorities in Holland, and by a law of that country all inheritances are forfeited unless claimed within thirty years. In this case it is admitted that the Webber from whom the claimants hoped to inherit died nearly two centuries ago!

A Pamphlet on Steel and the Revenue.

[From the Philadelphia North American.]

A very singular pamphlet reaches us from Boston, which appears to be leveled at the tariff on steel, and as an effective means of attaining this result, to be occupied chiefly with a side discussion of the Pittsburgh people and Pennsylvania in general. It is a reprint of a number of communications to a Boston paper, written or inspired by the resident agents there of the steelmakers of Sheffield, England. The trouble appears to be that the cost of steel making in Sheffield has so much increased during the last three years, that the agents to whom it is sent in this country must either cost could be borne, and yet hold the field against domestic steel; but if both are to be put upon the delivery price—and these agents do all the work of importing and delivering—then the American steel will crowd them hard. To illustrate their case in exact figures we must state that it costs almost or twice as much to make best cast steel in Sheffield now as it did four years ago. Swedes iron costs £20 per ton, against £9 to £10; coal costs more than twice as much as before, and labor nearly twice as much. So that a selling price then, of forty shillings a hundred weight must now be made sixty shillings at least, and a delivery price here of thirteen cents per pound must now be made at least twenty cents. This would all be easy enough if it were not for our tariff—that constant vexation to English interests seeking to control our markets. Every tariff since the government was founded has required the payment of duty in proportion to value, and steel costing over eleven cents per pound in Sheffield, is now required to pay three and one-half cents and ten per cent.; whereas, if under eleven cents, the duty is only three cents. The problem is how to evade the duty, and to this task the writers and publishers of this pamphlet address themselves with vigor, if not discretion.

It is a difficult thing indeed to evade the law. The general line of proceeding in this case has been to make a price for America quite other than the open market price required by the terms of all enactments. That is, the Sheffield steelmaker sells at sixty shillings to all English and European buyers, but to his agents in America he invoices it at fifty shillings, as do all his associates; not selling it, observe, but merely consigning it to an agent for sale. So this agent taking his low-priced bill to the custom-house, dodges the higher rate of duty, and saves nearly two cents in gold per pound. Plain people would call this defrauding the revenue, but not so our Boston pamphleteers; they believe in it. And for the good reason that it saves them at least half this difference on the steel they consume. Unlike people elsewhere, who generally pay any advance on the materials they use which belongs to a change in the market, these "steel consumers," as they sign themselves, are determined to get that which is of greater value than before without paying any more for it. And the Sheffield steelmakers, while extremely kind and liberal in everything else, still decline to make any sacrifice on their part, so that the United States revenue falls between the two stools, and is the only thing really lost.

The consciences of these people are, however, not altogether easy. They appear to be in fear that the law, which has a sullen, latent inflexibility about it, that frequently turns on those who evade it in a most relentless manner, will at some time look critically at the low-priced bills, and collect the duty that has fallen in arrears. They therefore publish several plausible arguments in this pamphlet to show that "Pittsburgh" is to blame for the whole trouble, and if anything happens "Pittsburgh" should be punished. The reason is clear. "Pittsburgh" makes excellent steel and sells it everywhere at prices little affected by either the price of Swedish iron or English coal. Not even the duty of three and one-half cents a pound is to be evaded or accounted for, to get this steel in the market. The consequences are full of agitation to the Sheffield agents, and hence much solicitation to the Douglas Axe Company and others to write to the Boston papers.

After all, the matter is singularly trivial. Suppose the axe companies of Boston should pay two cents a pound more for their steel? They may console themselves with the thought that the American steelmaker pays four cents a pound more for his Swedes iron. Everybody else suffers twice as much. But this is suffering—as this mourning axemaker. But they all charge every two cents in advance on they material over as four cents to their own customers, and are not ruined by the process. So, too, does the Boston axemaker. Even the Amazonian savage who buys his axe pays twenty per cent. increase; but the peculiarity of the case is, that this axemaker, inspired by the dexterous Sheffield agent, wants to save on both sides at once—to pay no more for his material, and yet sell his product higher. To all this we have no objection, nor has "Pittsburgh," we venture to say; provided always, that these active Boston interests do not defraud the revenue.

We may state, in conclusion, that the high rate of specific duty on steel so much complained of, as paid now on steel over eleven cents per pound, is almost exactly the same in proportion to value as that which was four years ago paid on the same steel at three cents a pound. Each is a trifle over thirty per cent. ad valorem, which is a lower rate than that paid on manufactured imports generally by at least ten per cent. What earthly pretext, therefore, can sensible men have to make such an outcry, and what possible hope is there that Congress will reduce the duty? The open market price in Sheffield of this steel is sixty shillings a hundred weight, the cost of cases, freight to Liverpool and commissions is two shillings more, which make 16.4 cents as the dutiable value per pound. This at thirty per cent. ad valorem is 4.8 cents per pound; while the actual duty against which this pamphlet outcry is made is 4.23 cents per pound. So that, as we say, this very steel comes in at almost the lowest rate of duty prescribed by our present laws on any manufactured article.

Great Lava Flood.

At a late meeting of the California Academy of Sciences, Professor Joseph Le Conte, of the State University, gave an extended and deeply interesting lecture on the great lava flood of the Northwest, which he had studied carefully on several exploring tours through the lava region. The great overflow of lava was one of the most remarkable convulsions of nature that with on the face of the earth. The periodal point of eruption from the great central cauldron was at the Cascade Mountains, in Oregon, which were of themselves one solid mass of lava. From this center the lava overflowed a great portion of Oregon, Washington Territory, all of Northern California, and vast sections of Nevada, Montana, and Idaho. The lava flood covered an area of at least 200,000 square miles, as far as explored, and it would probably be found to extend over a surface of 500,000 square miles, as its limit northward had never been determined. The depth of the lava crust varied from upwards of 2,000 feet in the Cascade and Blue Mountain region to one and two hundred feet and less at remote points on the outer edge of the overflow. Where the tremendous gorge of the Columbia river cut through the lava bed, it had a depth of 3,500 feet. The explorations of Professor Le Conte had determined that the great lava flood pertained to a comparatively recent geological period, and he assigns the eruption to the latter part of the miocene, possibly extending to the post tertiary. In the great canon of the Columbia river, beneath this immense layer of lava, he had discovered the petrified stumps of trees, beds of leaves, and all the evidences of a great forest once existing on a level corresponding with the present surface of the river. Above this forest came a drift period, and it was buried in a heavy layer of conglomerate before the overflow of 3,000 feet of lava. In tracing the ancient channel streams that had cut deep gorges through the lava, extending a mile or two back from the main river, these conclusions regarding the formation had been fully verified. Professor Le Conte dwelt with much enthusiasm on the details of his wonderful observations in the Cascade regions, and he considered it one of the most interesting fields for geological study to be found on the earth.

A Reanimated System.

Nervous, debilitated and desponding, the sufferer from indigestion and biliousness deserves the kindly sympathy of every man and woman whom heaven has blessed with a vigorous stomach and a regular flow of healthy bile. While in this forlorn condition let him commence a course of that supreme restorative, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. At the end of four or five weeks ask him how he feels and regard him attentively. You will see a new man, you will hear a new voice. Health and vigor will have returned to his frame, his words will be cheerful in purport and in tone, his eye will be clear and its expression untrammeled, and he will tell you that he is free from pain, has a good appetite, sleeps soundly, and that his habit of body is natural and regular. We have seen this wonderful change effected in hundreds of instances by a faithful, persevering use of this incomparable medicinal stimulant, which is among tonic remedies what Mount Washington is among the surrounding acclivities, it over-tops them all.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 41 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

ASSETS JANUARY 1, 1873....$778,251 56.

Chartered in 1862.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounded semi-annually. Call and ask. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

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Real Estate Savings Bank,

[ESTABLISHED 1862.]

Cor. Fourth Ave. and Smithfield Street,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

ASSETS NOVEMBER 1, 1873.....$821,015 71
SURPLUS FUND..... 63,368 57

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The charter of this Bank restricts the investment of Deposits to First Liens on Real Estate within the Commonwealth, or in United States and Pennsylvania State Bonds.

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EDUCATIONAL.

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DRY GOODS.

AT

McKEE'S,

UNTIL

*February 1

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, January 24, 1874.

—Reports come to us from what claims to be reliable authority that at the next election of directors of the Central and Hudson River Road the Vanderbilt party will be ousted. The new combination which, it is said, will obtain control of the road is headed by Erastus Corning, Jay Gould and William A. Fargo. It is said that Mr. Corning, who has been some time in Europe, has secured control of all the stock held in Europe, all of which we doubt.

—The proposed constitutional amendments, limiting the State debt of Louisiana to $15,000,000, and taxation for all purposes to $12,500,000, guaranteeing the principal and interest of the new consolidated bonds to be issued in funding the debt, and providing that the revenues of each year derived from taxation shall be devoted solely to the expenses of that year, have passed the Legislature. The bill funding all the valid outstanding bonds of the State at sixty cents on the dollar in seven per cent. bonds, principal and interest secured by the foregoing constitutional amendment, also passed the House. It repeals all contingent debts of the State, consisting of bonds not issued and stock not subscribed, amounting to over $18,000,000. The bill is substantially the same as recommended by the Chamber of Commerce. It goes to the Senate for concurrence.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Luther S. Kauffman, broker, 96 Fourth avenue.

January 24, 1874.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	111⅛	111⅛	111⅛	111⅛	111⅛	111⅛
Western Union Telegr'h	76¾	76¾	77	77	77	77
Pacific Mail	41⅝	41⅝	41⅝	41⅝	41⅝	41⅝
Adams Express	95	....	....	....	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	....	69	....	....	71½	69¾
American Express	....	65¾	....	....	66½	66
United States Express	....	68½	69	....	69½	69½
New York Central	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾
Erie	48¾	47⅞	....	48	....	48
Michigan Central	....	81½	81½	81½	81½	....
Michigan Southern	81½	81½	....	82	....	82
Illinois Central	....	99	....	99	....	....
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	....	88	....	88	....	88
Chicago & Northwestern	....	72	....	71	....	69
Do Preferred	....	....	....	....	....	81
Rock Island	105¾	105¾	....	105¾	105	104¾
St. Paul	....	48	48½	47¾	....	47¾
Do Preferred	....	73	....	72¾	73¾	73¾
Wabash	64½	64½	64½	64½	64½	63¾
Fort Wayne	....	91	....	91	....	....
Ohio and Mississippi	....	34	....	34	....	....
Union Pacific	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	34¾
Chicago and Alton	....	106	....	106	....	....
B. H. and E.	....	....	....	....	....	....
Harlem	....	....	125	....	....	....

—The following are the quotations for government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS.	Morn.	Noon.
6, S, 6s 1881	117¾	117¾
881, coupons	113¾	113¾
20s, 1862	114¾	114¾
20s, 1864	116¾	116¾
20s, 1865	117¾	117¾
20s, new	116½	116½
30s, 1867	117¾	117¾
30s 1868	117¾	117¾
10-40s	....	113
5-40s, coupons	114¾	114
Currency 6s	115	115
New 5s	112¾	112¾
STATE BONDS.		
Tennessee	....	80¾
Tennessee, new	....	79¾
South Carolina, July	....	9
Missouri 6s	....	92¾

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, January 24, 1874.

REMARKS—The weather since our last has changed, and is now very cold. The week's markets closed unsteady, dealers in all branches of trade reporting an increased demand. The rivers are still clear of ice, with sufficient water for navigable purposes.

The receipts of grain are on the increase, particularly is this the case with barley, which will be seen by reference to elevator reports published elsewhere. Wheat is also arriving more freely, the sales taking all prime lots offered. Corn and oats are in better demand, the stocks on hand being light and scarcely equal to the demand.

The grocery trade, particularly green and roasted coffees, is fairly active. Well posted dealers are of the opinion that prices have not reacched their highest point. The steamer South America arrived at New York on Friday from Rio. The market for coffees continued very firm, and the indications were that higher prices would yet be reached.

Bacon and provisions are held firmly at quotations, the stocks on hand being ample, and of the finest quality ever offered in this market.

BUTTER.—In arriving more freely, and we feel safe in assuring the readers that lower figures will rule ere many days.

With regard to the flour market we have little to say, and whilst prices are not quotably lower we are inclined to the belief that concess ons would be made to effect sales.

Taken as a whole, the market is satisfactory both o sellers and buyers.

Below we give the receipts of the leading articles of produce received during the past twenty-four hours:

Corn, bbls	2,607	Apples, bbls	283
Corn, sks	1,152	Wheat, sks	685
Barley, sks	1,091	Rye, sks	616
Oats, sks	1,250	Butter, lbs	27
Bacon, pieces	1,195	Bacon, tierces	196
Cheese, boxes	1,200		

The following table show the receipts of produce for the week ending January 24, 1874:

Flour	Apples	Corn	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats	Butter	Hides	Bacon lbs.	Bacon hhds.
1,620	104	1,969	1,340	3,471	862	1,603	144	5,000	195	....
1,310	213	1,466	1,826	1,657	1,000	1,250	27	1,200	....	....
1,376	213	472	200	2,297	400	1,775	33	4,999	20	....
1,150	212	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	175	195	95	....
1,316	208	869	190	219	676	708	371	....	....	96
1,407	....	150	680	941	....	1,000	1,000	....	....	....
9,373	997	5,410	5,616	10,594	2,941	7,133	2,671	11,816	403	....

Cheese, 239 boxes.
Potatoes, 3,380 bushels.

Below will be found the wholesale rates of the market, unless special mention is made to the contrary:

APPLES—Market steady at prices ranging from $2 00 to $4 50 as to quality and condition.

APPLE BUTTER—Market quiet at unchanged prices. Sales at 60@70c ₩ gallon.

ASHES—Sales reported as follows: Soda ash, common, 3¾@4c; refined, 5c; pearl ash, 10c; arsenic, 5c; black lead, 5c.

BAGS—X $6 00 ₩ 100; XXX $9 00; India ale $10 ₩ bbl; Bass' English ale, in gilderkins of 22 gals, $22 75 @22 84; bbls, 41 gals, $42 26@ 04; hhds, 63 gals, $62 50@65 00; in cases, 4 doz bottles, $20 75; Wm. Youngers' India pale ale, in cases of 8 doz bottles, $3 ₩ doz; Robert Younges' sparkling ale $3 ₩ doz; Guinness' stouts, bottled by E. & A. Barton, $3 ₩ doz; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 25 ₩ doz; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale $1 75 ₩ doz.

BUTTER—The receipts are still on the increase, and prices tend lower. We quote choice roll at 36@38c ₩ lb; solid packed 30@32c; common 12@16c.

BRANS—The demand for nice prime navy continues active with sales reported at $1 90@2 00 ₩ bushel.

BROOM CORN—Sales of red and red topped at 4½@5c; fair to good green 3½@3¾c; hurl, 2¾@3c ₩ lb.

BORAX—Market quiet and prices unchanged at 25c ₩ lb.

BROOMS—No 2, $2 ₩ doz; No 3, $2 50 ₩ doz; No 4 $3 ₩ dozen; No 5 $3 75 ₩ doz; carpet brooms $4 ₩ dozen; toy brooms and whisps, $1 50@2 00.

In a jobbing way, from store, 25 to 37½c ₩ dozen additional.

BESWAX—We are reported a fair market with sales at 26@30c ₩ lb.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—We advance our figures for sugar cured hams, and a few other brands of bacon since our last quotations. The following are the figures at which sales are now made: Hams, sugar cured, extra ₩ pound, 15c; sugar cured, ₩ lb, 13½c; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 12c; dried beef, extra sugar cured ₩ lb, 16c¾; beef tongues, extra sugar cured, per pair, $1 00; bacon shoulders, ₩ lb, 8½c; bacon rib sides, ₩ lb, 9½c; bacon short rib sides ₩ lb, 9½c; clear sides, ₩ lb; mess pork, ₩ bbl, $16 75; lard, prime leaf, in tierces, ₩ lb, 10½c; refined do for summer use, in tierces, 9½c; refined do for summer use, in half barrels, 11c ₩ lb; refined do for summer use, in buckets, 11½c ₩ lb; lard, refined, in 3 lb cans, ₩ lb, 12¾c; refined do in 5 lb cans, ₩ lb, 12¾c; refined do in 3 lb pails, 13½c; refined do in 5 lb pails 13½c; refined do in 6 lb pails, 13c; ham sausage, 10c.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Sales ½ lb cans per doz at $1 60; ½ lb do $2 00; 1 lb do $3 00; 5 lb cans $21 ₩ dozen.

CHEESE—The market is quiet and firm, with sales prime Ohio Factory, in a jobbing way, at 15c@15½c; New York Goshen, 15½@16c; ₩ lb; Young America, 15½@16c; Ohio Flat, 14½@15c; Ohio Factory, 14½@15c; New York Factory, 15½@16c; Ohio Factory, 14½@15c; Ohio Factory, 14½@15c; Ohio Factory, 14½@15

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Monday, January 26, 1874.

CITY MATTERS.

Lawrence Literary Society.

The second annual entertainment of the Lawrence Literary Society will be given in the Fifteenth ward School Hall on Thursday evening next. The performances will be musical, dramatic and literary. The proceeds are for the benefit of the poor. Tickets twenty-five cents.

Viewers of Street Improvements.

Judge Sterrett, Stowe and Collier, on Saturday, appointed Robert Vandevort, Edward Cassiday and Matthew Edwards, to serve as a Board of Viewers of Street Improvements in the city of Pittsburgh, to hold office for one year from the 1st day of February next, in accordance with the 8th section of the act concerning streets and sewers of Pittsburgh.

The Controllership.

In another column of the COMMERCIAL this morning will be found the card of Mr. R. M. Snodgrass announcing himself as a candidate for the Republican nomination for City Controller. Mr. Snodgrass is the present incumbent, having been chosen by councils to succeed Mr. McGowan. Mr. S. is a painstaking officer, is thouroughly posted in the duties of the office he holds, and has shown since in charge, a fitness for the position.

Congratulatory.

William J. Diehl, lately Deputy Sheriff and now City Bond Clerk, last week took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Graff. The interesting ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's parents in Allegheny City, on Thursday evening, and was witnessed by quite a number of the many friends of the contracting parties. We wish the young couple a pleasant journey through life.

A Wrestling Match for $500.

A wrestling match has been arranged to come off in this city on March 2d, between Ralph Woolfendale, a miner employed at the Alliquippi works, and a newly arrived wrestler from England named Jack Parr, alias Jumping Jack. One of the conditions is that it shall be conducted in the Lancashire fashion—which is catch as catch can. It will be for $500 and the championship. Four hundred dollars is already up.

A New Candidate for Fire Commissioner.

In our advertising columns this morning, a new candidate for Fire Commissioner is announced in the person of William Woods, Esq., of the well known iron firm of Reese, Graff & Woods. Mr. Woods needs no introduction; he is one of our solid men, and in the position of Fire Commissioner he could not but be well placed.

The Western University.

On Friday evening last a very interesting and highly creditable exhibition was given by the junior class of that excellent institution, the Western University, at their hall. All the performances were original and some of the orations exhibited unusual thought and excellence of composition. Every part was good, and we congratulate the boys on the success of their endeavors, and the faculty on the good result of their training. The music for the occasion was furnished by Toerge's band. The large number of ladies and gentlemen present were much pleased.

The next term of this institution will commence February 2.

St. Patrick's Day in the Morning.

Yesterday a meeting of representatives from the various Irish Catholic societies was held at the Cathedral school house. Mr. J. C. Conroy presided. It was resolved to hold a convention on Sunday, February 15th, at 2 o'clock P. M., the place to be selected by the Chairman, and announced in due time through the press. The basis of representation was fixed at one delegate for each fifty members, and an additional delegate for a fraction over that number, those societies only to be represented that intend turning out on the 17th of March. The meeting was harmonious, and indications are that the demonstration will be larger than in former years.

A Charity Fair.

We have already noted the labors of the charitably disposed residents of the Sixth and Ninth wards, Allegheny, to relieve the wants of the many destitute families of that neighborhood. After giving for a number of weeks they found that the drain upon the few was too heavy, and a society was organized to raise funds. Now, this society has opened a fair in the building on the corner of Beaver avenue and Brady street, Sixth ward, and it is hoped that it will be liberally patronized. The hall has been handsomely decorated with evergreens, and by the donations of many merchants and others, it has been well filled with useful and ornamental goods, to be sold. A number of the ladies of the vicinity have volunteered, and will attend nightly.

Democratic Primaries.

The Democracy of the city held their primary elections on Saturday and, except in a few districts, they were the usual tame affairs The delegates will assemble at the Court-house to-morrow to nominate candidates for Mayor, Treasurer and Controller. Who will stand the run for the nomination for Mayor is yet uncertain, but the following are among the many suggested: Robert Liddell, Jr., Jno. B. Guthrie, Samuel F. Patterson and John Murray, Sr.

For Treasurer, Messrs. John B. Guthrie, John P. Heisel, and Domenic Ihmsen are named.

It appears to be settled that John A. Elder, of the First ward, will get the nomination for Controller.

The Estate of Robert Finney.

Messrs. Edward Gregg and W. W. Martin, appraisers of the estate of Robert Finney, who made a voluntary assignment for the benefit of his creditors, filed a report on Saturday, as follows:

To seventy shares of stock in the Coal Bluff Mining Company	$ 1,942 00
Interest in Linden Mining Company	2,900 00
Fifty shares Columbia oil stock	1,000 00
One share Craft property	7,000 00
Two hundred and fifty shares Pacific Mill	9,625 00
Interest with Edward Gregg in land near Duluth	500 00
Due bill against John Scott for	9,954 11
Subject to losses in speculations in Pacific Mail Co. stock	5,000 00
Due bill against W. J. Rose	200 00
Total	$36,867 00

Some stocks, due bills, etc., were returned as worthless, but the aggregate was not large.

A Currency Fraud.

Some rascal has had printed a large number of bills in the similitude of the national currency, but not technically counterfeit, as on their face they only promise to pay five dollars to any one who will purchase one hundred dollars worth of goods at the Mauch Chunk Cotton Mills. There are no such mills in existence. Strange as it may appear, people in Philadelphia have been deceived by these bills—one having been taken at a bank. The style of swindling is such that a person in the habit of handling money would likely be deceived, but the general public are very careless and easily duped. If the parties who printed the bills are caught, they will be punished under the law which prohibits the issue of notes resembling legal tenders or national bank notes. Let every one look closely at any legal tenders that may be offered them.

Was it a Mistake?

An incident was related in our hearing not long since which may be worth recording, as throwing some light upon the subject of modern prophecy. It seems that some years since a young, talented and rising minister of the gospel, a student of the old world, took up his abode in this city, and being desirous as all faithful heralds of the gospel should be of performing his whole duty, was "instant in good works in season and out of season." The occasion to which we have special reference, occurred in Allegheny City some years ago, when the youthful divine was called upon to address a convocation of Sabbath school scholars. One bright looking lad occupied a conspicuous position on a front seat, who attracted the attention of the speaker. Pointing to the lad he remarked: "There is a bright, intelligent boy who, if he continues to pursue the path in which he is now treading will some day make his mark in Church or State." The boy, now a young man, insists that he has tread the path of life according to the best lights set before him, but that at present he sees little or no prospect of reaching any high position either in Church or State.

We may add that the reverend speaker, after reaching a high eminence in the Church has for the present returned from the ministry, and that the Sunday School boy is now holding a prominent and responsible position on a railroad. Was the boy or the speaker mistaken, or both?

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

The past week was a notable one at the Pittsburgh Opera House, having witnessed a succession of audiences which crowded the auditorium to its utmost nightly. This must, of course, have been very gratifying to Miss Maggie Mitchell, not only because of the handsome addition made to her bank account, but as showing that the people of Pittsburgh hold her in such high esteem. Artistically, too, it was a memorable week, the leading artist and the stock company never having done better. This evening "Fachon, the Cricket," with its shadow dance and other oddities, will be presented. In this play Maggie won her first great triumph, and in it she is now without a rival. In addition to the regular company, Mr. John A. Elsler, the manager, and Mr. C. S. Rogers, and Mr. C. A. Steadman, from the Cleveland Academy of Music, will help to support Miss Mitchell. A matinee is announced for Wednesday next, to accommodate those who failed to get admission on Saturday afternoon last. "Fanchon" will be performed.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

Stage Manager Williams will have an abundance of excellent material at his command during the present week, seven new stars having been added to the already large company. The new comers are Harry Kernell, comedian and mimic; Wayne and Lovely, heavy song and dance; Miss Annie Fox, vocalist; John Shay and Ned Fox, comedians; James D. Kelly, character artist. The performance to-night will top off with the blood-curdling drama, "The Indian Slave's Revenge."

CITY POLITICS.

Meeting of the Republican Executive Committee.

Three Conventions to be Held.

Primaries on the 7th, and Conventions on the 10th of February.

The City Republican Executive Committee met, Saturday afternoon, pursuant to call. There was a large attendance of members, and much interest was manifested. Mr. Robert C. Elliott, chairman, called the meeting to order, and explained that the members from the South Side wards had been added under authority of a resolution passed when the committee was organized—the same authority under which he had appointed the members from the old wards.

Messrs. M. F. Egan and John D. Fleming, Secretaries, called the roll, and substitutions were made as follows:

In the Second ward Thomas H. Phelps was chosen in place of John Paul in the Third, Gus. L. Braun was appointed in place of John Hipp, resigned; in the Eleventh, W. B. Hays, Jr., took the place of S. W. Hill, and in the Thirty-fourth R. T. Hemiup was chosen, instead of Mr. Irwin, who is not a resident of the ward. Mr. Evan Jones was added as a member at large.

Thos. S. Bigelow, Esq., City Attorney, then addressed the committee, in which he stated that since his opinion had been given to Councils relative to the legality of an election on the third Tuesday in February next, the Legislature had seen fit to prepare a general election law, which would no doubt be passed finally in a few days. Without this law to regulate the election, as required by the new Constitution, it would have been absurd to have held an election. Now that the means for holding an election were to be provided, and but little time remained to test the legality of an election next month he thought it better not to run any risks but to prepare for work at once.

THE PRIMARY MEETINGS.

Mr. Wm. Anderson remarked that, in view of what had been suggested by Mr. Bigelow, and in order to bring the question of making nominations before the committee, he would offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Republican nominations for Mayor, Controller and Treasurer be made by separate delegate conventions, composed of one delegate from each election precinct.

Resolved, That the primary meetings for the election of delegates be held on Saturday, February 7th, between the hours of four and seven o'clock, P. M., and that the voting be by ballot.

Resolved, That the delegates, chosen to the respective conventions, meet for the purpose of making nominations on Tuesday, February 10th, at 10 o'clock A. M., at such places as the City Executive Committee may designate in their call.

J. W. Riddell, Esq., expressed the opinion that an election in February next was not intended by the Constitution, and the question should be brought before the courts for their decision. The courts alone were competent to construe the Constitution. The question might be raised by applying for a rule on the Mayor to show cause why a mandamus should not issue to compel him to make proclamation for the election.

Mr. Anderson agreed with Mr. Riddell as to the propriety of having the question settled by the courts, but in the meantime he was in favor of putting the party machinery in motion.

Mr. G. L. Braun stated that a number of the best lawyers in the State were of opinion that the election must be held in February next.

C. S. Fetterman, Esq., favored the resolutions, but in the meantime an application should be made to the courts to place a construction on that part of the Constitution in controversy.

The question being called, the resolutions were passed unanimously.

THE LEGAL QUESTION.

Mr. Fetterman then moved that J. W. Riddell and George T. Oliver, Esq., be appointed a committee to apply to the Supreme Court, at Philadelphia, for a mandamus on the Mayor of this city to compel him to issue an election proclamation.

Mr. Riddell declined to serve on such committee, as he was not well enough versed in constitutional law.

Mr. Oliver also declined, but was willing to act as one of a committee to procure competent counsel.

Mr. Chalmers stated that the Mayor would not refuse to issue a proclamation, and a mandamus would not be necessary.

Mr. Riddell thought the Republican party ought to get ready for the fight, and to that end should regard the question as settled that we are to have an election next month. This talk about applying to the courts, when the people all over the State are getting ready to hold their elections, looked as though we were afraid to go into the contest. He moved to lay the resolution on the table, and his motion was carried.

PLEDGES FROM CANDIDATES.

Mr. Chalmers moved that all candidates, who entered into the canvass at the primary meetings, be required to present written pledges to this committee, to abide by the decision of the nominating conventions. Carried.

THE ELECTION BOARDS.

Mr. Kirk then moved that the primaries be conducted by the republican members of the regular election boards, who shall have power to fill vacancies. The motion prevailed.

THE NEXT CITY COMMITTEE.

Mr. Oliver moved that the chairman of the different conventions be authorized to appoint a City Executive Committee for the ensuing year. It was decided to leave the matter to the conventions themselves.

Mr. Fetterman moved the appointment of a Committee of five to make the arrangements for rooms for holding the coming convention. Carried and Messrs. Fetterman, Hays, Chalmers, Wilson and Jenkin Jones were appointed the committee.

The Chairman, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. Wilson, of Finance Committee, made statements concerning the refusal of certain Republican officeholders of the city to pay the assessments made upon them by the committee. The Treasurer and Controller were the only parties who had paid willingly. No definite action was taken, but it is understood a list of the delinquents will be called for at the next meeting.

The committee adjourned to meet on Saturday afternoon next, unless sooner convened by the chairman.

CITY MISSIONS.

Meeting at the Second Presbyterian Church.

The annual City Missions meeting was held last evening at the Second Presbyterian Church, Wood street, Rev. Dr. Scovell pastor, under the auspices of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh. After the opening religious exercises, Rev. S. C. Faris, Superintendent of Missions, made a verbal report as to the progress during the past year, from which it appears that the usual church and Sabbath school services are held in each of these Missions, except that at is preaching but once on Sabbath."

"The new chapel for the Mount Olive Congregation was dedicated on last Sunday last. It is 36x55 feet exclusive of recess for pulpit and vestibule, and 18 feet story. The cost, including grounds, was about $6,000, nearly all of which is either paid or pledged in subscriptions that are considered good.

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"The attendance at all the missions has been slowly yet steadily increasing. There has been no unusual religious interest, a few have professed Christ, and these are the evidence that the Lord is with us.

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Rev. Scovel delivered an excellent discourse on "The fields are white (the harvest is ready," and Rev. Noble appealed to all to aid the missions by coming to Christ. The meeting was very largely attended. We give below the officers of the missions of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, and the location of the stations:

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Mission Sabbath-school, Second avenue, near Brady street; Allentown Chapel, Thirty-first ward; Mount Oliver Chapel, outer end of Sandy lane; Homestead Mission, on the river, above Brownstown.

THE ISSUE OF WATER BONDS.

Amendment of the Law Proposed—Meeting of the Finance Committee.

The lengthy and somewhat tiresome investigation by the Finance Committee, caused by the illegal issue of over $100,000 of the city water bonds, brought out the fact that while bonds had been issued to various parties at different times in amounts exceeding one thousand dollars each, there was no law for it, in fact that there is an express limit to the sum of $1,000 each. As numerous applications are now on file for bonds in amounts exceeding the limit, Controller Denniston called a meeting of the committee for the purpose of taking action upon the matter, he declining to issue until authorized by law.

The meeting was held on Saturday afternoon, with Col. Phillips in the chair, and members present: Messrs. T. B. Atterbury, Bissell, Thompson, Kerr, McCune, Negley, Aiken, Rafferty, Bittell, House, Meyran and Charlton. A general discussion of the subject brought out the fact that City Solicitor Bigelow had prepared an ordinance covering the question of issuing bonds in sums to suit parties wishing to invest, and it was agreed to refer the ordinance to the meeting of Councils this afternoon.

City Controller Snodgrass reported to the Committee that there were over $131,000 in the city treasury belonging to parties over the county who wished registered bonds in sums of $1,000, but he declined to issue them until authorized by Councils.

The ordinance prepared is understood to cover the Water Commission question. The work on the new water works, now in course of construction, was freely canvassed by the Committee, after which it adjourned.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

U. S. District Court—Judge McCandless.

Collins & Fox, of Oil City, creditors, filed a petition in bankruptcy against Jonathan Bench, of Clarion county, debtor. The usual order was granted.

The motion on petition of Stouffer, Myers & Co, creditors, of Philadelphia, for an injunction against George P. Neil et al., execution creditors, argued by Jacob S. Slagle, Esq., for said motion. Injunction granted.

In the matter of J. & L. M. Childs, of Erie county, bankrupts, on application of the assignee, an injunction was granted against the First National bank of Corry and the Erie Dime Savings bank.

A. D. Burbank, creditor, filed a petition in bankruptcy against Ault & Cornforth, of McKean county, debtors. The usual order was made.

Common Pleas Court—Judges Stowe and Collier.

The following petitions in divorce were presented: Margaret J. Wallace vs. Samuel A. Wallace; Libbie M. Conlon vs. Thomas J. Conlon; Alfred Stockton vs. Arabella Stockton; Johanna Dietrich vs. Jacob Dietrich. Subpœnas were awarded.

Petitions were granted to Mary Heim, Barbara Hechelman, Philipena Hammei and Julia Maloney, under the act securing to married women their separate earnings.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of J. F. Haney & Co., an inventory of the assets of the firm was filed, and the Court fixed the bond in the sum of $3,000. The appraisement was made by J. P. Leam and J. W. Campbell.

A motion for a new trial was made in the case of Petty vs. Deer, an action of ejectment where the plaintiff obtained the verdict.

Mr. McClung presented a petition for a charter for the Bismarck Building and Loan Association. A preliminary order was made.

Mr. Porter presented a petition for the appointment of appraisers in the case of the Commonwealth ex. rel. William Clinton, a habitual drunkard. The Court granted the petition, and appointed James Evans and J. W. Patterson appraisers.

Messrs. Dayne and Magee filed the report of the Nation's Bank of Savings, of Allegheny City, for the year ending December 31. The report shows the liabilities of the bank to be $118,946 65 and the assets equal that amount, including $7,786 15 in cash on hand; $109,257 32 of the assets is in the shape of bonds and mortgages.

Mr. Elder presented a petion for amendment to the charter of the Great Western Mutual Building and Loan Association, of Pittsburgh. A preliminary order was made.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

65. Ulam et al. vs. Semple, Reynolds & Co.
66. Semple et al. vs. Ulam et al.
68. Gardner vs. Jenkins & Co.
110. Stewart vs. Adams.
93. Gazzam vs. Graff.
160. Gazzam vs. Graff.
161. White vs. Graff.
115. Phillips vs. Cluley.
134. Huckenstein vs. Chambers.
136. Laine vs. Chisholm.
53. Warner vs. Hegner & Kaff.
102. Schrader vs. Lony.
151. Hartley et al. vs. Hartley et al.

District Court—Judges Ewing and White.

In the case of Barton vs. Simonds et al., the jury found for the plaintiff in the issue which determines the right of ownership, in the plaintiff, to a sand-bar below and contiguous to his island in the Allegheny river.

The new trial list will be taken up in this Court to-day.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

In the case of Adolph G. Zwanzig, tried for perjury, the jury found a verdict of not guilty, and that August Geisler pay the costs.

SENTENCES.

James Cunningham, found guilty of entering a building with intent to commit a felony, on oath of John Wochla, was sentenced to the penitentiary for two years and six months, and on another indictment for the same offense, a like sentence was imposed, to take effect at the expiration of the first sentence.

Emory E. Steele, found guilty of assault and battery, on oath of Martain Reeg, was fined $15 and ordered to pay the costs of prosecution.

Albert Minnie, indicted for aggravated assault and battery, and convicted of simple assault and battery, on oath of Alexander Conner, brakeman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, was fined $15 and sentenced to the mandamus on the Mayor of this city to compel him to issue an election proclamation.

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RAILROAD COLLISION.

Smash-Up on the Pan Handle—One Man Killed—Heavy Loss of Property.

Shortly before seven o'clock last evening a collision occurred on the Pan Handle railroad near Steubenville, resulting in the death of one man and the loss of a considerable amount of rolling stock. The nature of the accident was such as that it was miraculous that there were not many persons killed and maimed. The collision occurred at Holliday's Cove, thirty-nine miles from this city, between the Steubenville Accommodation (No. 12), Conductor Mooney, and the Fast Line (No. 1), Conductor Champ. The latter is a through express train due here at 7.33, and the former left here at 2.22 P. M.

THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

At Steubenville the express, east, was on time, and at Holliday's cove should lay by on a switch to allow the accommodation to pass. She run off, however, before the time had expired, and had hardly got into good speed when the accommodation came in sight, about one thousand feet east of the switch, and a fearful collision followed. Both engines fairly imbedded themselves and stood upright on the track. Each train kept the track, but the shock of the collision spent itself on the express and baggage cars of both trains, which were broken up into kindling wood. From the stoves the express car and baggage car took fire and were totally consumed, with their contents.

MAN BURNED TO DEATH.

Mr. James Paul the express messenger who was in the train perished in the flames. Soon after the accident he was missed and it was supposed that he was buried in the *debris*. When cleared away his mangled and charred remains were found in the express car. Deceared was about fifty-two years of age and resided in Cincinnati.

The express train consisted of two passenger coaches, one sleeping car and one baggage and one express car. The accommodation train was made of three passenger and one baggage car. The locomotives were in charge of old engineers, and not much damage to the road in place of striking engineers. This statement is made in justice to the officers of the road as well as to the inexperienced engineers. The loss to the railroad company will be greatest in baggage and the damage to the engines.

ARRIVAL OF THE EXPRESS.

The express train arrived at the Union Depot about half-past twelve o'clock Saturday night. The passengers were quite worn out and made sad complaints. The passengers of the sleeping car, some twenty in all, were very indignant at the Pullman Car Company for not having a sleeping car awaiting them at the depot. They stated that they bought tickets for two nights and the company knew of the accident in time to provide another car to take the place of the one detained by the wreck.

Among the passengers was Miss Ella Pierce, a favorite Western actress, whose valuable wardrobe was consumed with one of the cars. There were only two trunks saved, and about twenty consumed with the car.

The fireman and engineer of both engines were slightly injured by jumping from the locomotives.

OUR COUNTY WORKHOUSE.

A Creditable Comparison with Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia *Press* says: That the Workhouse of Allegheny county is a well managed and useful institution appears from the report for 1873. Among the industries connected with it are a laundry, a brickyard, and a barrel factory. The expenditures for clothing, provisions and other requirements last year exceeded $50,000, but the earnings amounted to $60,501 14, giving a net profit of $14,294 73. The lesson conveyed by this financial statement is too plain to be overlooked. In Philadelphia different plans are pursued. Benevolent societies distribute supplies, which, if they do not always encourage idleness and improvidence, are soon exhausted, leaving the recipients still in need. The taxpayers sustain in addition *otium, sine dignitate* able-bodied men and women in a vast hotel. The new House of Correction by its very name disgraces its inmates, and therefore were than useless as regards the worthy poor. No honest man wishes to be supported in indolence, however poor he may be. Still less would he have his very honest pride stigma on this. The experiment now succeeding at Pittsburgh has already been tried on a small scale, but with like success, in this city. Some years ago a building was collected in an old building a number of poor persons during a hard winter. They partly supported themselves by simple handiwork. At the end of the season the philanthropist found himself out of pocket less than fifty dollars. The true plan of efficient charity is to help the poor to help themselves. A municipal industrial establishment like that at Pittsburgh is needed here, and it might be obtained, without expensive contracts or extensive jobbing, by simply using in that way the present alms-house.

THREE FIRES SATURDAY EVENING.

Prompt Acting of Firemen Prevent Any Serious Damage.

Three fires occurred on Saturday evening between six and seven o'clock, but owing to the prompt answer of the fire department to the calls, and the successful endeavors of the men the damage in each case, was very light.

The first alarm was sounded from box 213. It turned out to be only the burning of soot in a chimney in the house of Mr. Burns, on Penn avenue, near Thirty-seventh street.

Chief Engineer White had just returned from this fire when another alarm was struck from box 72, corner Butler and Thirty-ninth street. An oil still in the refinery of Messrs. Speer & Stewart had overflown and the oil, caught fire from the furnace. The flames were soon subdued by the judicious use of water and by smothering the fire with blankets. The loss will not exceed $100.

Shortly before seven o'clock an alarm was sounded from box 37, corner Liberty and Sixth streets. The cause was the discovery of fire in the second story of a large building next the Suspension bridge, on the corner of Duquesne Way and Sixth street. The fire originated in the sample store-room of McClean & Hooper, sewing machine agents, and besides burning the partition and a portion of the floor, several sewing machines were badly scorched. The office of Blake's ore crusher was also badly scorched. Barbour's lamp and oil store on the first floor, was considerably damaged by water. The loss was inconsiderable. Assistant Chief Engineer Hamill attended. The fire is supposed to have occurred from an insecure stove.

Fire at Temperanceville.

About half-past one o'clock this morning an alarm of fire was given from box 123, corner of Main and Temperanceville. This would call out the Duquesne and the Mechanics (South Side) companies. Knowing the inaccessibility of the place and the difficulty of procurring water, Chief White, as he passed the Duquesne, ordered them to await his signal. At three o'clock it had not been received, however, and from the direction of the light seen at the bridge, it appeared that a house on the side of the hill or in the hollow along Saw Mill run was burning.

Taking the Oath.

On Saturday, Judge Stowe appeared before Prothonotary Kennedy, and took the oath prescribed by the new constitution. His Honor subsequently administered the oath to Judges Sterrett and Collier, and Judge Sterrett administered the oath to the Prothonotary, Mr. Kennedy.

Good for this Day Only.

The New York *Journal of Commerce* criticises the decision of the Commission of Appeals that a railroad ticket does not constitute a contract, but is "a mere token or voucher showing that the plaintiff had paid his fare and was entitled to a passage as thereon indicated." The authorities go thus far, but they also, the *Journal* thinks, leave the ticket holder the alternative of maintaining that the ticket not being itself a contract, its conditions are not binding upon him. We quote: "The company having taken his money for passage are bound to give him one, without reference to the ticket or its stipulation. If, for example, in buying his ticket he did not observe the restriction printed thereon, what right has the conductor to infer that he thereby assented to the forfeit of his money unless he took a passage on a particular day?

"The Commission of Appeals do not venture to affirm in terms that the ticket holder does anywhere bind himself to such an understanding. They hold that 'railroad companies carrying passengers have the right to make reasonable rules and regulations for conducting their business, and they and their agents incur no liability in enforcing them in a proper manner.' So, under the power of making rules and regulations for conducting their business, it seems that railroad companies may take money for performing a service, and keep the money without making any return whatever for it. If that be law it is, at least, not equity.

"We should like, however, at least, to see a case made, in order to determine whether a railroad company, upon refusing to honor a ticket, except upon the day of its date, cannot be compelled to refund the money paid for it. Otherwise they have the right of confiscation."

Those who earn their livelihood by smoking glasses will be interested in knowing when trade will be good this year. In 1874 there will be two eclipses of the sun, neither visible in the United States; and two eclipses of the moon, the first not visible here, and the last a total eclipse of four hours' duration, on the night of October 24th and 25th. But the strangest phenomenon will be the transit of Venus over the sun's disc, December 8th, which will be visible only in parts of Asia, Africa, Australia and the Sandwich Islands. The last occurrence of this phenomenon was in 1796.

And now the bill-stickers, with paste-pot and brush, and step-ladder, meet in solemn conclave, to deliberate upon matters of national importance, connected with their dignified and elevated profession. The convention assembled in Chicago, last week, and as a National Association, and, like all other National Associations, began with the showing of the Finance Committee, and ended with the invitation to a carriage drive around the city.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The Latest Items of Interest from All Quarters.

DELAWARE.

The Frankford and Breakwater contract has been awarded for $270,000, $2,000 in State bonds, $30,000 in individual subscriptions and the balance in stock. The road is about 14 miles long, from Frankford, Del., northward to Georgetown.

ILLINOIS.

The Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw stockholders' committee has made a report. After considering the condition of the road, its resources and the affairs of the company, the committee recommends that there be an amicable foreclosure of consolidated mortgage, and a reorganization of the company. The committee's plan comprises a general mortgage in which all outstanding bonds are to be funded, the funding of coupons due in 1874 and 1875, and the exchange of the present stock for new stock with an assessment on each share, and also the funding of part of the floating debt. The whole amount of present funded debt is $6,420,000, and there is $163,450 of interest-bearing dividend scrip. There is $1,700,000 first preferred, $1,000,000 second preferred, and $3,000,000 common stock—$5,700,000 stock in all. The capital is [$12,313,450, or $51,955 per mile, and floating debt of $815,567.

A petition is filed in the United States Circuit Court at Springfield, by the representatives of the Springfield and Illinois Southeastern bondholders for the appointment of a receiver, the last two coupons on the first mortgage bonds being unpaid. Some of the small holders of bonds have obtained judgment against the company and are levying on the rolling stock. The motion for a receiver is made on behalf of some large bondholders, and is intended to stop this action. The court, January 10th, appointed Charles A. Beecher and Alexander Starne, of Springfield, and H. M. Bloodgood, of New York, receivers.

Charges of extortion are brought against the lessee of the Chicago and Illinois Southern Road, the Paris and Decatur Company. The president of the latter company denies the charges, which are to be investigated by the Board of Railroad Commissioners. The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company of New York, trustee under first mortgage, has made application for a decree of foreclosure and for appointment of receiver, interest on bonds being unpaid. The court appointed E. B. McClure receiver.

WISCONSIN.

The La Crosse City Council has accepted the agreement made by its committee with the Milwaukee and St. Paul Company and has ordered an election to be held on the question of issuing $15,000 in bond to purchase the land required by the agreement. By this agreement the city binds itself to give the right of way through the city and two blocks of land for depot grounds. The company agrees to build a depot and run a car from it to all the trains, and also a through car to Chicago from La Crosse on every through train.

IOWA.

In the Circuit Court at Des Moines, two executions against the Des Moines Valley Road have been ordered. A special executions was ordered to issue to the sheriffs of Lee and Van Buren counties to sell certain property. The petition of intervention, filed for a time time for the receiver to file his accounts, was extended to February 1.

It is reported that the Davenport and St. Paul bondholders intend to commence legal proceedings to compel the construction company, which is building the road, to show what disposition is made of the funds realized from the sale of the bonds. The bonds sold amounted to $3,000,000, and brought, it is said, about eighty cents on the dollar.

MAINE.

The Legislature is asked to charter a road from Lewiston northwest to Rumford Falls, about thirty-five miles.

VERMONT.

The Central first-mortgage bondholders have filed a bill in equity in the United States Circuit Court against the trustees under the mortgage and also the Central Company, the present Receiver and Manager. The bondholders ask that the Receiver be restrained from giving precedence to the income and extension bonds, issued in payment for leasing the road, and enforcing the payment of the same out of the trust funds to the prejudice of first mortgage bondholders. There is some question as to jurisdiction of the court, which will probably be the first point to be settled.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

A petition in bankruptcy has been filed against the Nashua, Acton and Boston Company in the United States District Court by the Taunton Car Company. An order had been granted, returnable January 20.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The stockholders of the Ware River Company have voted to lease the road to the Boston and Albany Company, and the stockholders of the latter company voted to accept the lease. The lease is for 999 years, and the lessee agrees to pay five per cent. on capital stock the first year, and one-half per cent. more each year until seven per cent. is reached, and that rate permanently thereafter. The lessee is to bear cost of completing the road. The line is forty-nine miles long from Palmer to Winchendon. The capital is $750,000. The rent is at seven per cent. will be $52,500. The cost of completing the line is $300,000, adding interest on which will bring the annual cost to the lessee up to $73,500. When the line is opened to Winchendon, eighteen miles of it—from Palmer to Gilbertville—having been completed some time and operated by the New London Northern.

The Vermont and Massachusetts stockholders have voted to confirm the lease to the Fitchburg Company, by a vote of 18,000 shares against 850. The stockholders of the Fitchburgh Company have already confirmed the lease.

Regular trains have commenced running over the new Boston, Barre and Gardner extension from Gardner to Templeton.

The Hopkinton Company has asked Hopkinton to increase the town's subscription by $50,000 to relieve the company from the pressing portion of its floating debt.

RHODE ISLAND.

The New York, Providence and Boston Company has determined to unite its common and preferred stock in one common stock.

HORRIBLE CRIME.

An Unnatural Father—His Daughter the Victim.

[From the Erie Dispatch.

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